SAYONARA, ZETSUBOU-SENSEI

THE POWER OF NEGATIVE THINKING VOLUME 6

KOJI KUMETA

Sayonara, Zetsubou-Sensei: The Power of Negative Thinking, volume 6 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

Sayonara, Zetsubou-Sensei: The Power of Negative Thinking, volume 6 copyright © 2006 Koji Kumeta
English translation copyright © 2010 Koji Kumeta

All rights reserved.

Published in the United States by Kodansha Comics, an imprint of Kodansha USA Publishing, LLC, New York.

Publication rights for this English edition arranged through Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

First published in Japan in 2006 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo, as *Sayonara Zetsubou-Sensei*, volume 6.

ISBN 978-1-61262-506-5

www.kodanshacomics.com

Translator/Adapter: David Ury
Lettering: Foltz Design

SAYONARA, ZETSUBOU-SENSEI

The Power of Negative Thinking 6

Koji Kumeta

Translated and adapted by Joshua Weeks
Lettered by North Market Street Graphics

KC KODANSHA COMICS

©2011 Koji Kumeta. All rights reserved.
First published in Japan in 2006 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.
Publication rights for this English edition arranged through Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

SAYONARA, ZETSUBOU-SENSEI

The Power of Negative Thinking 6

CONTENTS

The Story So Far	iv
Honorifics Explained	v
Sayonara, Zetsubou-sensei: The Power of Negative Thinking volume 6	1
Bonus Materials	148
Translation Notes	155

THE STORY SO FAR

Nozomu is a Tokyo-dwelling psychic who is popular among the middle-aged crowd. He has been invited to the village of Moushiwakearimason (Sanskrit for "thirty-five-year-old slacker) where people greet one another by genuflecting and reciting every possible greeting from "good morning" to "good night." The leader tells Nozomu, "There's something wrong with a young girl who lives in our village. I think it started when she began reading proletariat literature." Nozomu enters the girl's home to find her on her knees, bent over backward. The villagers believe this to be a curse that befalls the village once every one hundred years. It is immediately clear to Nozomu that the girl is in no danger. However, in order to build on his reputation as a psychic, Nozoumu makes a powerful declaration: "This is Kemuko's CG. A large dose of Karumochin will cure her."

Honorifics Explained

Throughout the Kodansha Comics books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Kodansha Comics not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Kodansha Comics books.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., or Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even between lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/

Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute,* it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

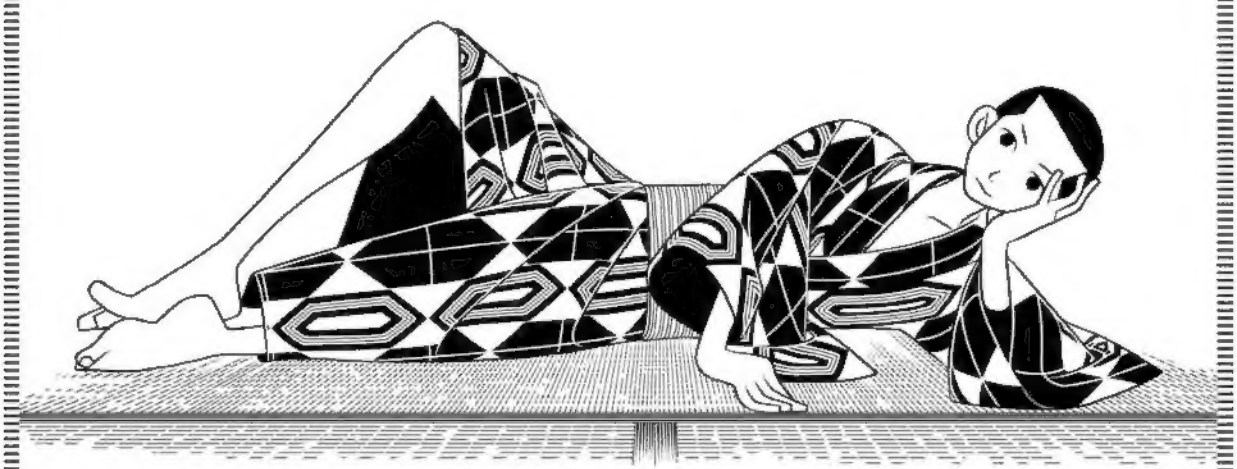
Koji Kumeta

SAYONARA, ZETSUBOU-SENSEI 6

The Power of Negative Thinking

Contents

Chapter 51 - The Pororoca Wave.....6
Chapter 52 - On the Assumption That We're Brother and Sister.....20
Chapter 53 - Respect the Original.....34
Chapter 54 - The Cat Who'd Heard It a Million Times.....48
Chapter 55 - What a Pain.....62
Chapter 56 - The Situation Is Terminal.....76
Chapter 57 - The Benefits of Zero.....92
Chapter 58 - The Almost-Transparent-Failure Blues.....106
Chapter 59 - Avoiding Love in the Center of the World.....120
Chapter 60 - The Silver Time Difference.....134



The stories, characters, and incidents mentioned in this publication are entirely fictional.
Originally published in 2006 in *Weekly Shônen Magazine* #1 to #13 (no story was printed in #12).

ITOSHIKI FAMILY TREE

CAST OF CHARACTERS 1

MAJIRU ITOSHIKI
CURRENTLY LIVING WITH
NOZOMU ITOSHIKI

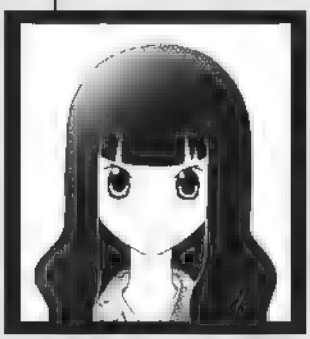
FIRST SON
ENISHI ITOSHIKI

WIFE
TAE ITOSHIKI

HEAD OF THE FAMILY
HIROSHI ITOSHIKI

FOURTH SON
NOZOMU ITOSHIKI
PROFESSOR NEGATIVE

SECOND SON
KEI ITOSHIKI
SELF-CONVINCING ARTIST



FIRST DAUGHTER
RIN ITOSHIKI
ITOSHIKI-STYLE IKEBANA INSTRUCTOR

THIRD SON
MIKOTO ITOSHIKI
DOCTOR AT ITOSHIKI HOSPITAL

TOKITA
ITOSHIKI FAMILY'S BUTLER

Cast of Characters 2

KIRI KOMORI
HIKIKOMORI GIRL

MERU OTONASHI
POISON-TONGUED EMAIL GIRL

MAYO MITAMA
MEAN LOOKING GIRL

MATOI TSUNETSUKI
STALKER GIRL

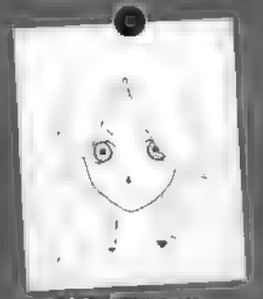
CHIRI KITSU
METHODICAL AND PRECISE GIRL

Friday,
December
15

Day Duty
Jun Kutou
Chiri Kitsu

KOTONON
INTERNET IDOL

NAMI HITOU
ORDINARY GIRL



KAERE KIMURA
(ALSO KAEDE)
BILINGUAL, SPLIT PERSONALITY

KAGEROU USUI
CLASS CHAIRMAN

HARUMI FUJIYOSHI
EAR FETISH GIRL,
ADDICTED TO MALE-ON-MALE

ABIRU KOBUSHI
TAIL FETISH GIRL; THOUGHT TO BE
A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

2-F Homeroom Teacher Nozomu Itoshiki

↑

Warning! Do not write these characters too close to one another!

Professor Negative

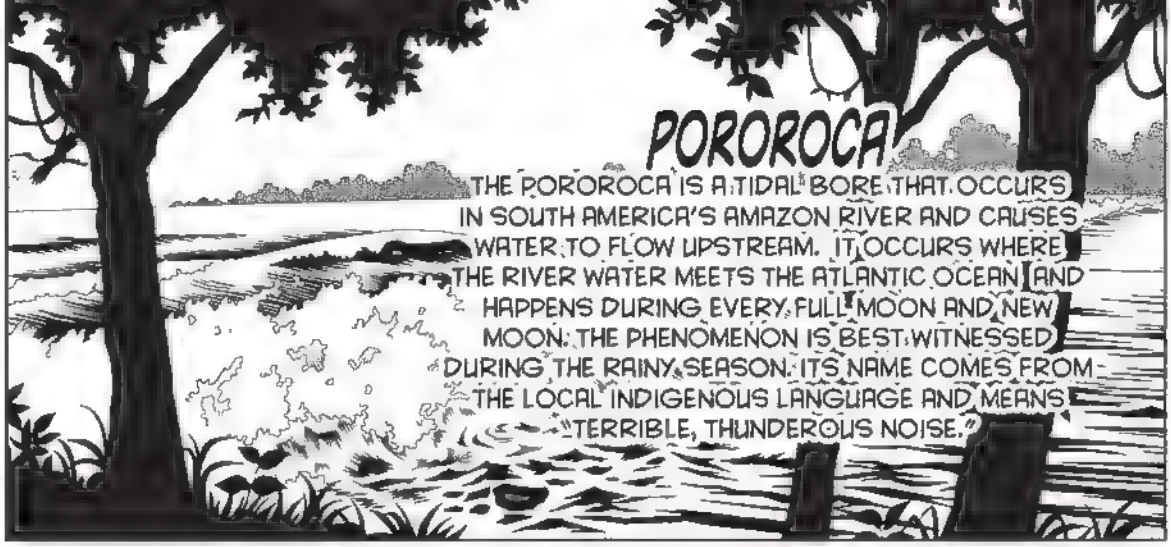
KAFUKA FUURA
SUPER-POSITIVE GIRL

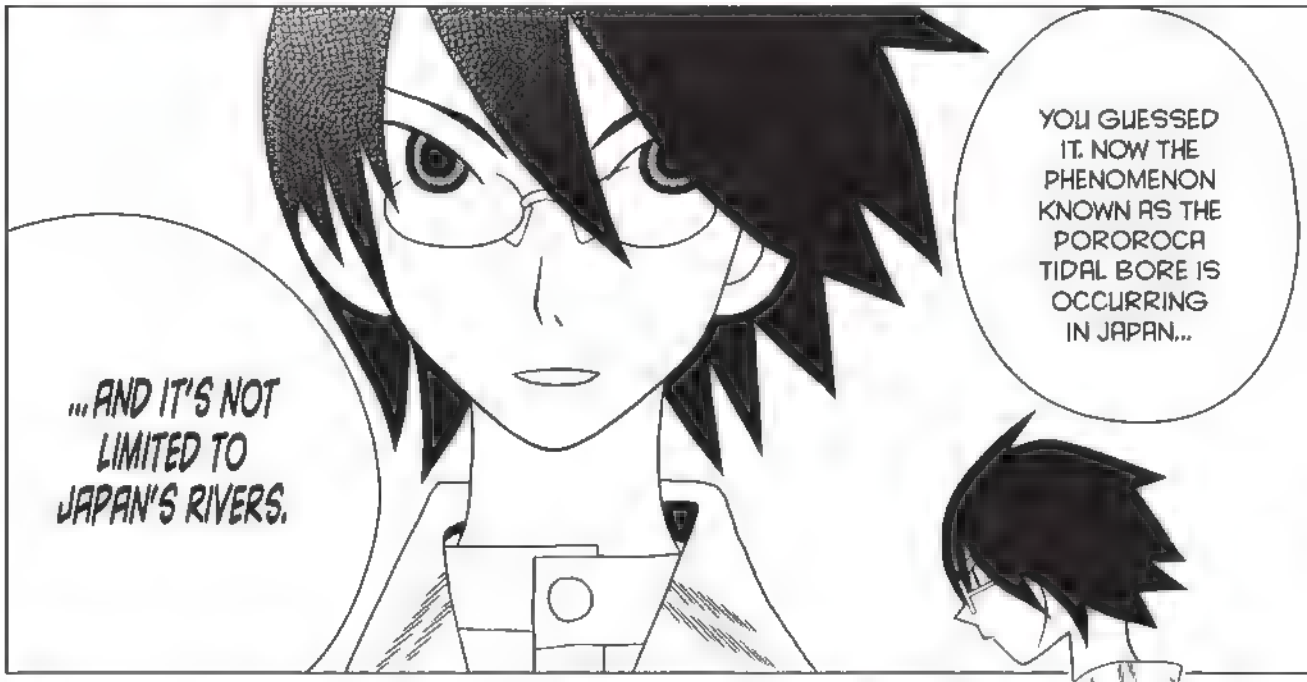
TARO MARIA
SEKIUTSU
ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT; REFUGEE GIRL

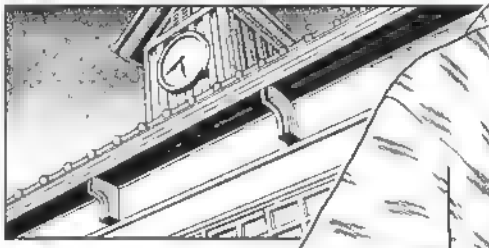
JUN KUTOU
MASTER STORYTELLER

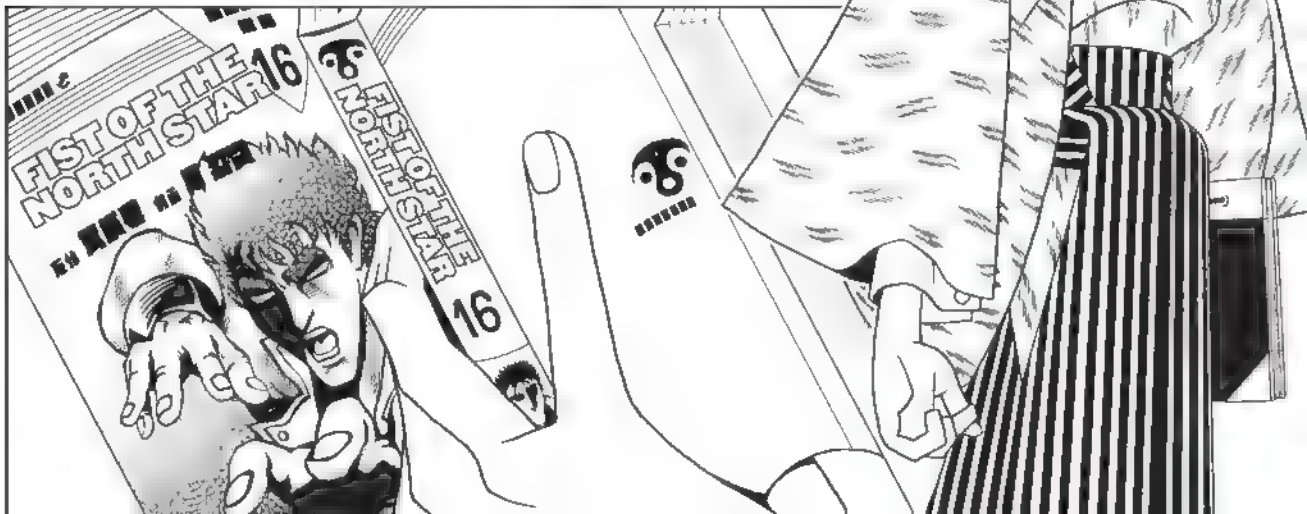
CHAPTER 51

しとしと
TSSS
TSSS
AHHH, JAPAN'S RAINY SEASON.
ごぽ
DROP
ごぽ
DROP
ALMOST EVERY COUNTRY HAS ITS RAINY SEASON, AND RIVERS AROUND THE WORLD UNDERGO A PHENOMENON KNOWN AS A "TIDAL BORE."
...POROROCA.
ONE OF THE MOST WELL KNOWN IS...


POROROCA
THE POROROCA IS A TIDAL BORE THAT OCCURS IN SOUTH AMERICA'S AMAZON RIVER AND CAUSES WATER TO FLOW UPSTREAM. IT OCCURS WHERE THE RIVER WATER MEETS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN AND HAPPENS DURING EVERY FULL MOON AND NEW MOON. THE PHENOMENON IS BEST WITNESSED DURING THE RAINY SEASON. ITS NAME COMES FROM THE LOCAL INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE AND MEANS "TERRIBLE, THUNDEROUS NOISE."

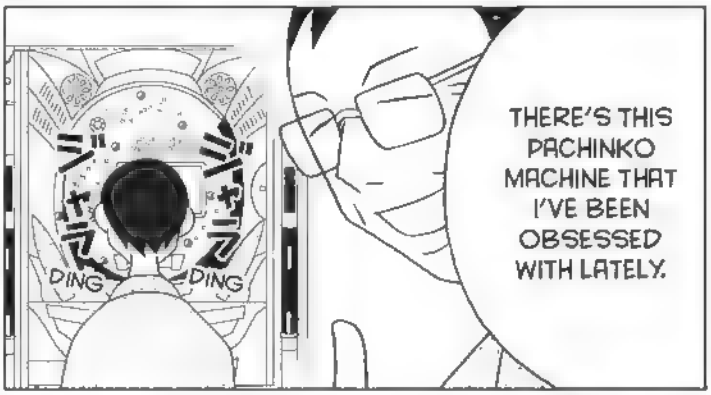

YOU GUESSED IT. NOW THE PHENOMENON KNOWN AS THE POROROCA TIDAL BORE IS OCCURRING IN JAPAN...
...AND IT'S NOT LIMITED TO JAPAN'S RIVERS.



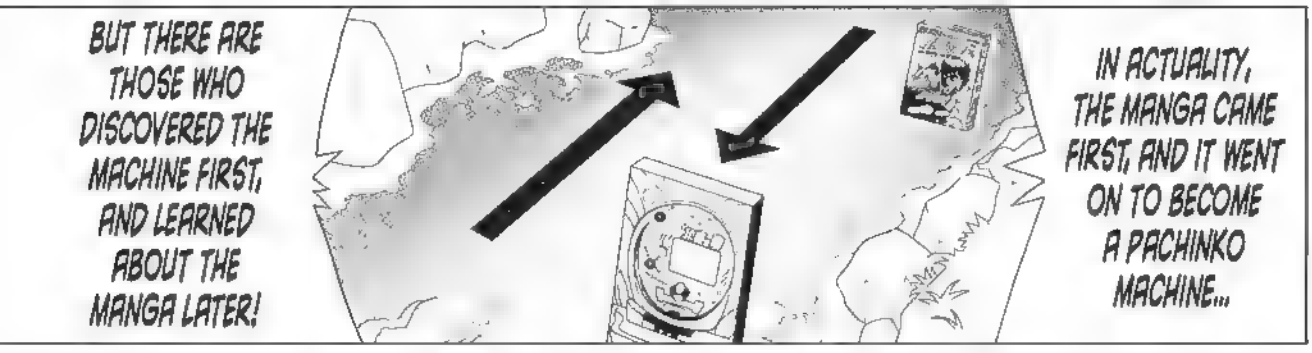

FIST OF THE NORTH STAR 16
FIST OF THE NORTH STAR 16

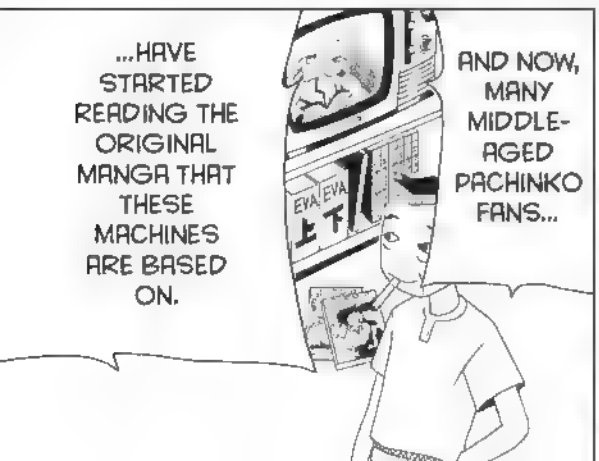
HA, HA, WELL, YOU SEE...
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU READ MANGA, JINROKU-SENSEI.

AND THIS MANGA WAS BASED ON THAT PACHINKO MACHINE, SO... THAT'S WHY I'M READING IT.


DING
DING
THERE'S THIS PACHINKO MACHINE THAT I'VE BEEN OBSESSED WITH LATELY.

THIS IS WHAT I CALL A TIDAL BORE!
HUH?
UH... ACTUALLY, THE MANGA CAME FIRST.


BUT THERE ARE THOSE WHO DISCOVERED THE MACHINE FIRST, AND LEARNED ABOUT THE MANGA LATER!
IN ACTUALITY, THE MANGA CAME FIRST, AND IT WENT ON TO BECOME A PACHINKO MACHINE...


...HAVE STARTED READING THE ORIGINAL MANGA THAT THESE MACHINES ARE BASED ON.
AND NOW, MANY MIDDLE-AGED PACHINKO FANS...
EVA EVA
上下

WHAT'S THIS ONE?
SUPER BONUS ROUND
THERE ARE SO MANY PACHINKO MACHINES BASED ON ANIME CHARACTERS THESE DAYS.

I HEARD A RUMOR THAT...

...A PACHINKO-ADDICTED K-DANSHA EMPLOYEE ACTUALLY SAID...

WELL, I GUESS IT IS IF YOU'RE THE MANGA ARTIST WHO CREATED THE CHARACTERS.

ISN'T THAT A GOOD THING?

CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT?

FIST OF THE NORTH STAR

VICTORY IS FAMOUS

YA KNOW, IF WE MADE A MANGA BASED ON THIS PACHINKO MACHINE, IT COULD BE A HUGE HIT.

THESE KINDS OF TIDAL BORES ARE HAPPENING ALL AROUND US.

CLASS Z-F

MYSTERY SOLVED...

NOW I KNOW WHY YOU SEE ALL THOSE MIDDLE-AGED DUDES WALKING AROUND WITH ANIME CHARACTER CELL PHONE STRAPS.

I NEVER PAID MUCH ATTENTION TO IT, BUT...

SOCCER MAGAZINE

HAVE YOU ALWAYS BEEN INTERESTED IN SOCCER?

I LEARNED THE NAMES OF ALL THE TEAMS AND THEIR PLAYERS.

SOCCER MAGAZINE "HOW TO BEAT THE GAME"

I DID IT.

ONCE I STARTED PLAYING THE GAME *WINNING ELEVEN*...

I ALWAYS GOT THE ATHLETES' NAMES MIXED UP.
I WAS COMPLETELY CLUELESS ABOUT BASEBALL BEFORE I STARTED PLAYING *FAMILY STADIUM*, SO...
I USED TO THINK "BAACHA*TO" WAS A REAL-LIFE SOCCER PLAYER.
FWIP
YEAH, I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN.

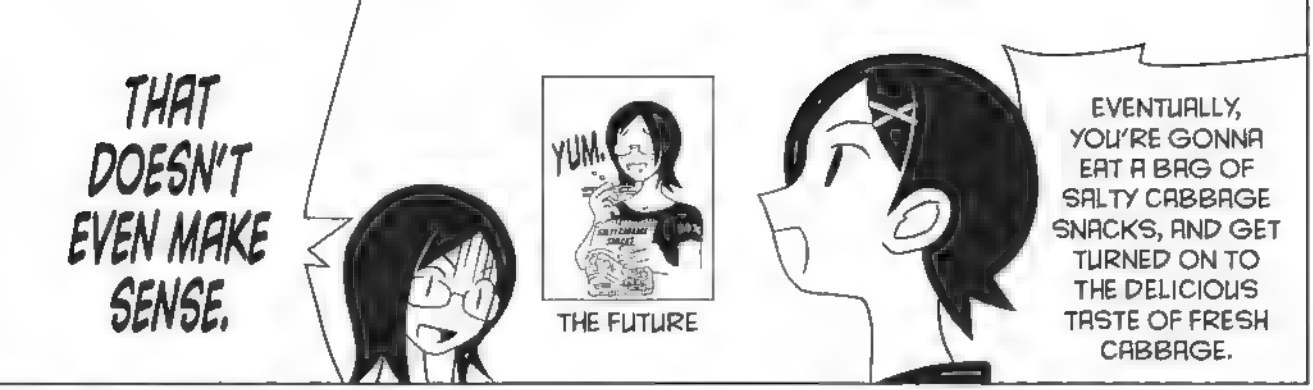
WHAT DO YOU ACTUALLY DO AT THIS SCHOOL ANYWAY?
YOU'RE STILL HERE, HUH?
I'D SAY MIZUMO INSTEAD OF MIZUNO, AND OMIAI INSTEAD OF OCHIAI, AND KUROMATE AND RU...

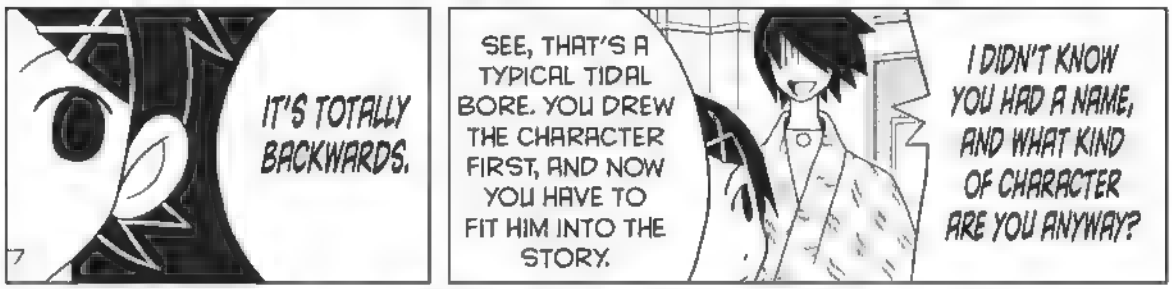
GTRS HAVE NEVER BEEN EXPORTED, YET THEY'RE STILL FAMOUS.
GTR?
LANCER EVOLU-TION?
WHAT THE-/? THIS CAR IS SUPERFAST! (SPOKEN IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE.)
I HEARD THAT FOREIGNERS LEARN A LOT ABOUT JAPANESE CARS BY PLAYING *GRAN TURISMO*.

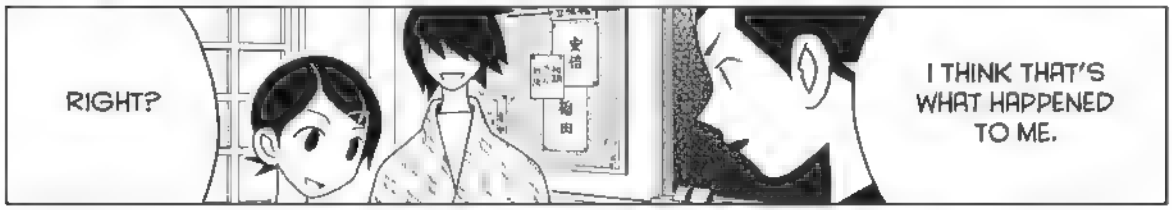
BUT ARE THOSE REALLY TIDAL BORES? JUST BECAUSE PEOPLE GET INTO THOSE THINGS FROM PLAYING VIDEO GAMES?
CHINESE HISTORY ← SANGOKUMUSOU
JAPANESE GEOGRAPHY ← MOMOTAROU DENTETSU
PLAYING MUSIC ← GUITAR FREAKS
WATCHING ANIME ← SUPER ROBOT TAISEN
WORKING IN A SHRINE ← SAKURA TAISEN
LISTENING TO TECHNO ← RIDGE RACER
BECOMING A RAILROAD FREAK ← DENHSA DE GO!
ROCK CLIMBING ← WANDA AND GIANT
HOSTESS CLUBS ← RYUUGA GOTOKU (LIKE A DRAGON)
I GUESS VIDEO GAMES REALLY CAN LEAD PEOPLE TO EXPLORE NEW INTERESTS.

...AND THEN I GOT INTO WATCHING THE ANIME. (EPISODE 15 "THE ISLAND OF KUKURUSU-DOAN")
I STARTED PLAYING WITH GUNDAM PLASTIC MODELS (OLD ZAKU)...

I BOUGHT A MAC.
BUT YOU STARTED BY GETTING AN IPOD, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU WERE INTO THAT VIDEO GAME "INSECT KING" BEFORE YOU GOT INTO RAISING BEETLES, RIGHT?
PWICK むくっ
YOU KNOW...
YOU'RE LIKE THE QUEEN OF TIDAL BORES, FUJIYOSHI-SAN.
HUH?
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU GOT INTO GREEK MYTHOLOGY...
...AFTER READING THE SAINT SEIYA MANGA RIGHT?
AND YOU MOVED TO SAKURA-JOUSUI ...
Sakurajousui Station
...AFTER YOU STARTED READING THE MANGA WHISTLE.
YOU STARTED WATCHING EVANGELION, AND THEN GOT INTO LISTENING TO CLASSICAL MUSIC...
...AND READING THE BIBLE...
...AND YOU EVEN STARTED STUDYING PSYCHOLOGY.
HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT?


THAT DOESN'T EVEN MAKE SENSE.
YUM...
THE FUTURE
EVENTUALLY, YOU'RE GONNA EAT A BAG OF SALTY CABBAGE SNACKS, AND GET TURNED ON TO THE DELICIOUS TASTE OF FRESH CABBAGE.


IT'S TOTALLY BACKWARDS.
SEE, THAT'S A TYPICAL TIDAL BORE. YOU DREW THE CHARACTER FIRST, AND NOW YOU HAVE TO FIT HIM INTO THE STORY.
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU HAD A NAME, AND WHAT KIND OF CHARACTER ARE YOU ANYWAY?



YOU GET PREGNANT → AND THEN GET MARRIED

THE CITY FIGURES OUT ITS BUDGET → AND THEN DECIDES WHAT KIND OF PUBLIC FACILITY TO BUILD

A FAMOUS ACTOR AGREES TO STAR IN A TV SHOW → AND THEN THEY START WRIT NG THE SCRIPT

YOU GET THE RESULTS OF YOUR EXAMS → AND THEN START TH NKING ABOUT YOUR FUTURE

A MANGA ART ST SUBMITS HIS FINAL DRAFT → AND THEN THE EDITORS DETERM NE HOW MANY PAGES THE STORY WILL BE

EVERYBODY IN CLASS STARTS COUPLING UP → AND THEN YOU DECIDE WHO YOU'RE IN LOVE W TH

THE AUTHOR OF *ASHITA NO JOE* ACCIDENTALLY DRAWS JOE'S RIVAL A LITTLE TOO BIG → AND THEN IN THE STORY, JOE'S RIVAL SUFFERS FROM SUDDEN WEIGHT LOSS

ざっぱーん
SPLASH
IT'S ACTUALLY A VERY NOBLE PURSUIT. THINK OF ALL THE SUFFERING THE SALMON ENDURES AS IT SWIMS UPSTREAM.

IT TAKES HARD WORK TO GET THROUGH THE TIDAL BORE.
TIDAL BORES ARE NOTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF.

THE TIDAL BORE IS A MUST FOR ANY MAN!
I SEE.
THERE'S NO BETTER WAY TO PROVE ONE'S MANHOOD THAN A TIDAL BORE.

LET'S SHOW THE WORLD JUST HOW MANLY WE ARE.
COME ON, ALL OF YOU MEN WHO'VE MADE IT THROUGH A TIDAL BORE.

ONLY A REAL MAN COULD DO SOME-THING SO TWISTED.
THAT'S AMAZING!

I'M GONNA START OUT BY BECOMING A FAN OF YUMI ADACHI'S MOM, AND THEN LATER I'LL GET INTO YUMI ADACHI!
BOOKS
Yumi's Mom
I'M A MAN, SO...

BECAUSE I'M A MAN... I'M GONNA GET INTO MAYAYA, AND THEN I'M GONNA GET INTO THE REAL AYAYA!
I'M GONNA GET INTO MIYAZAKI ANIMATION THROUGH THE WORK OF GORO MIYAZAKI.
BECAUSE I'M A MAN...
BUT DOES THAT REALLY REQUIRE A TIDAL BORE?

I'M GONNA START CHOOSING WHICH ANIME I WATCH BASED ON WHAT VOICE ACTORS STAR IN THEM.

BECAUSE I'M A MAN...

I'M GONNA EAT RAMEN AND THEN BECOME A FAN OF GAMON!

BECAUSE I'M A MAN...

I DECIDED TO BECOME A DOCTOR AFTER MY GIRLFRIEND AND I DID A LITTLE "NURSE AND PATIENT" ROLE-PLAYING.

I WATCHED *CAT'S EYE*, AND GOT INTO JAZZ DANCE!

- NORIKA FUJIWARA FAN → K-1 FAN
- *KAGEHINATA NI SAKU* → GEKIDAN HITORI'S LIVE SHOW
- MAI KURAMOTO → MAI KURAKI
- KORIKI CHOUSHUU → PRO-WRESTLING FAN
- DENSHA OTOKO (TRAIN MAN) → AKIHABARA
- FAKE NIPPLES → TENNIS FAN
- EBISU BEER → EBISU DISTRICT
- MASAMI NAGASAWA → TOUCH
- RYOKO TAMURA → YAWARA!
- YON-SAMA FAN → BECOMING FLUENT IN KOREAN
- BASEBALL DOG → HIROSHIMA CARP FAN
- MORNING MUSUME → SHARANQ
- BUTSU ZONE → BUDDHISM
- PLASMA TV → RESEARCH PARANORMAL ACTIVITIES

AHH, TIDAL BORES TRULY ARE A NOBLE PURSUIT.

A HOUSE IS BUILT

AND

A ROAD LEADING TO IT IS CONSTRUCTED

THE REAL "LUPAN"

INTO

FROM IMPERSONATOR

THE LEAD ACTOR OF THE ACTUAL SEQUEL

DVD

GOD SAMBLER 3

INTO

FROM THE STAR OF A PARODY FILM

GOD SAMBLER THE OTHER STORY

LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THE KINGS OF TIDAL BORES!

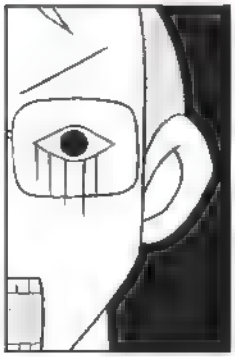
THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO HAVE PUSHED THE TIDAL BORE TO EXTREME LENGTHS.

I'M A MAN...

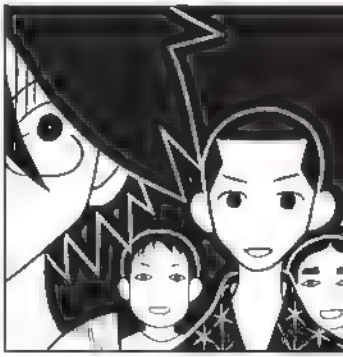
YOU MIGHT SAY I'M A KING OF TIDAL BORES AS WELL...

HEH, HEH, HEH, WELL, THEN...

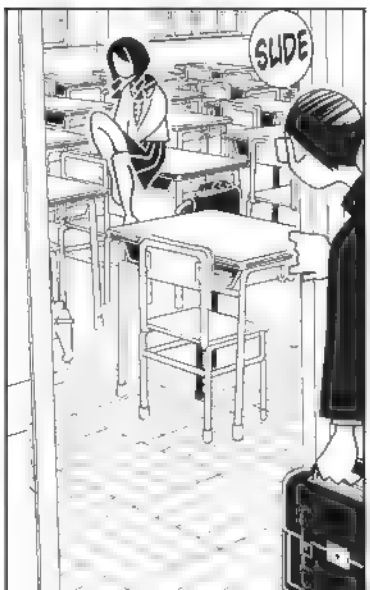
I ALWAYS FALL FOR A WOMAN'S LEGS BEFORE I FALL IN LOVE WITH HER.



THAT'S NOT REALLY WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT.
UH... WELL...



YOU JUST TURNED JAPAN'S TEN MILLION LEG FETISHISTS INTO YOUR ENEMIES.
NO, NO.
HUH? REALLY?


SLIDE

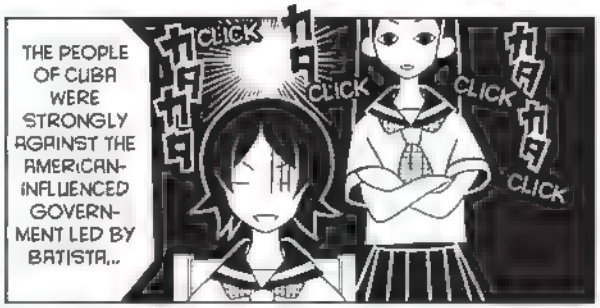
LA LA LA
OH NO, I FORGOT SOME-THING.

LOVE ALWAYS BEGINS WITH THE LEGS.

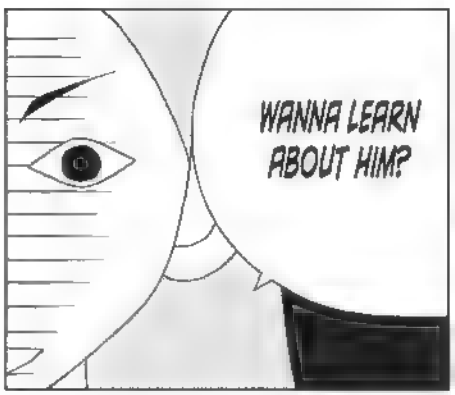
ほれ
BLUSH
SHE HAD A POCKET-SIZE HEATING PAD ON HER INNER THIGH.
HOW COULD I NOT FALL IN LOVE WITH HER?
WELL, SHE ALWAYS FALLS IN LOVE WITH THE TAIL FIRST.
SWIP
WE'D BETTER NOT SAY ANYTHING TO ABIRU-CHAN. SHE'D FREAK OUT.
DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHO THAT IS?
THIS T-SHIRT LOOKS COOL. I'M GONNA GET IT.
I'M NOT GONNA ALLOW YOU TO GET INTO HIM BECAUSE OF A T-SHIRT.
EVERYTHING HAS ITS PROPER ORDER.
THESE TIDAL BORES MUST BE STOPPED.

CUBAN REVOLUTION
(1958 - SANTA CLARA)

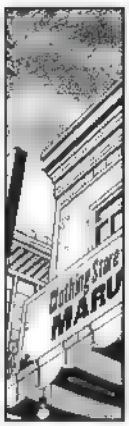
...YOU'VE GOTTA LEARN ALL ABOUT CHE GUEVARA'S LIFE FIRST!
IF YOU WANT THAT T-SHIRT...


THE PEOPLE OF CUBA WERE STRONGLY AGAINST THE AMERICAN-INFLUENCED GOVERNMENT LED BY BATISTA...
CLICK
カチカチ
CLICK
CLICK
カチカチ
CLICK

I WONDER WHY KITSU-SAN KNOWS SO MUCH ABOUT REVOLUTIONS AND BLOODY, GORY STUFF.
HERE COMES THE SCENE WHERE CHE GUEVARA MEETS CASTRO IN MEXICO.
WHEN IS THIS GONNA END...


WANNA LEARN ABOUT HIM?

!!
LOVE


MARU

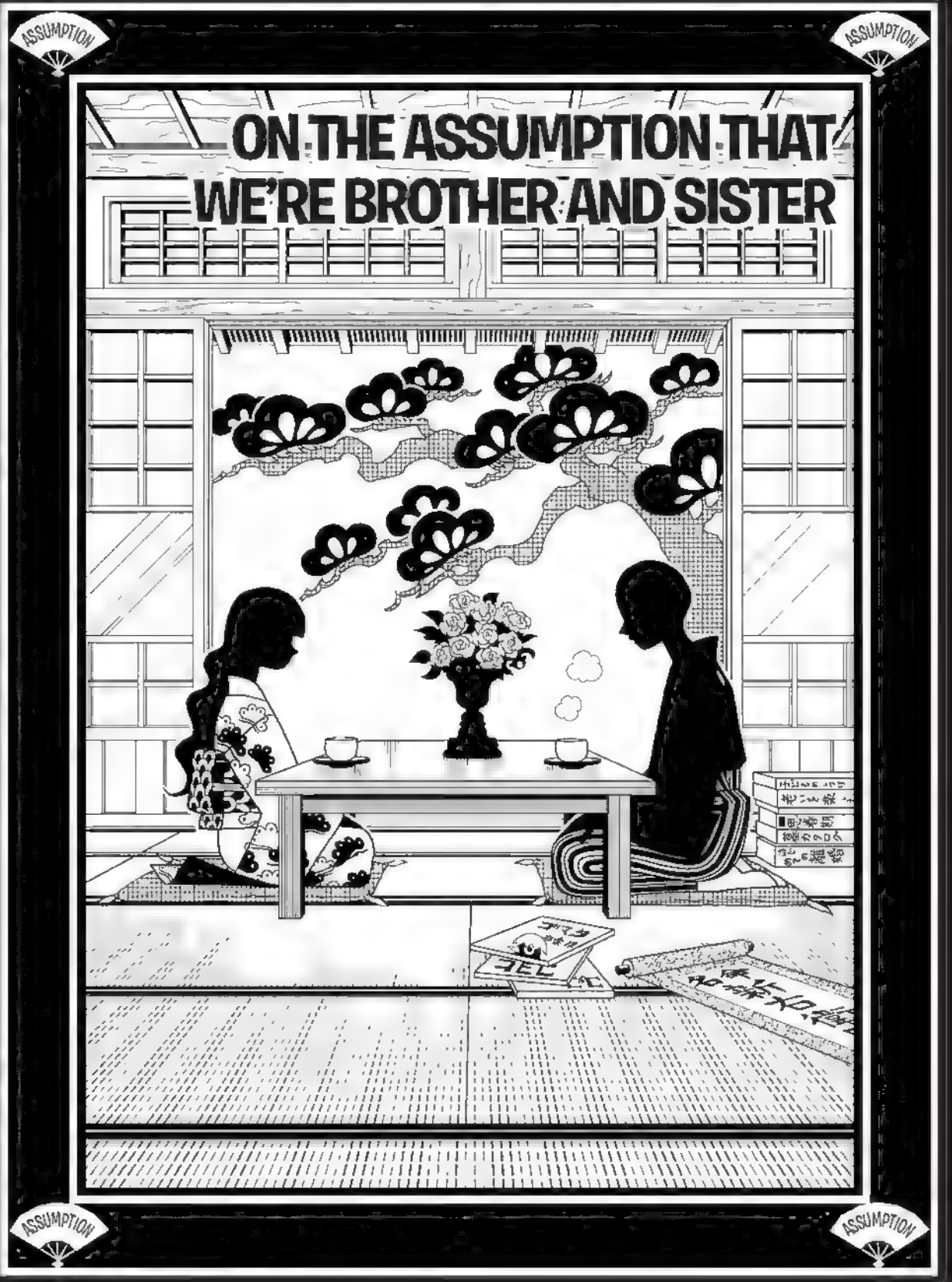
108TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

ALUMNI DIRECTORY

IKKYUU-SAN

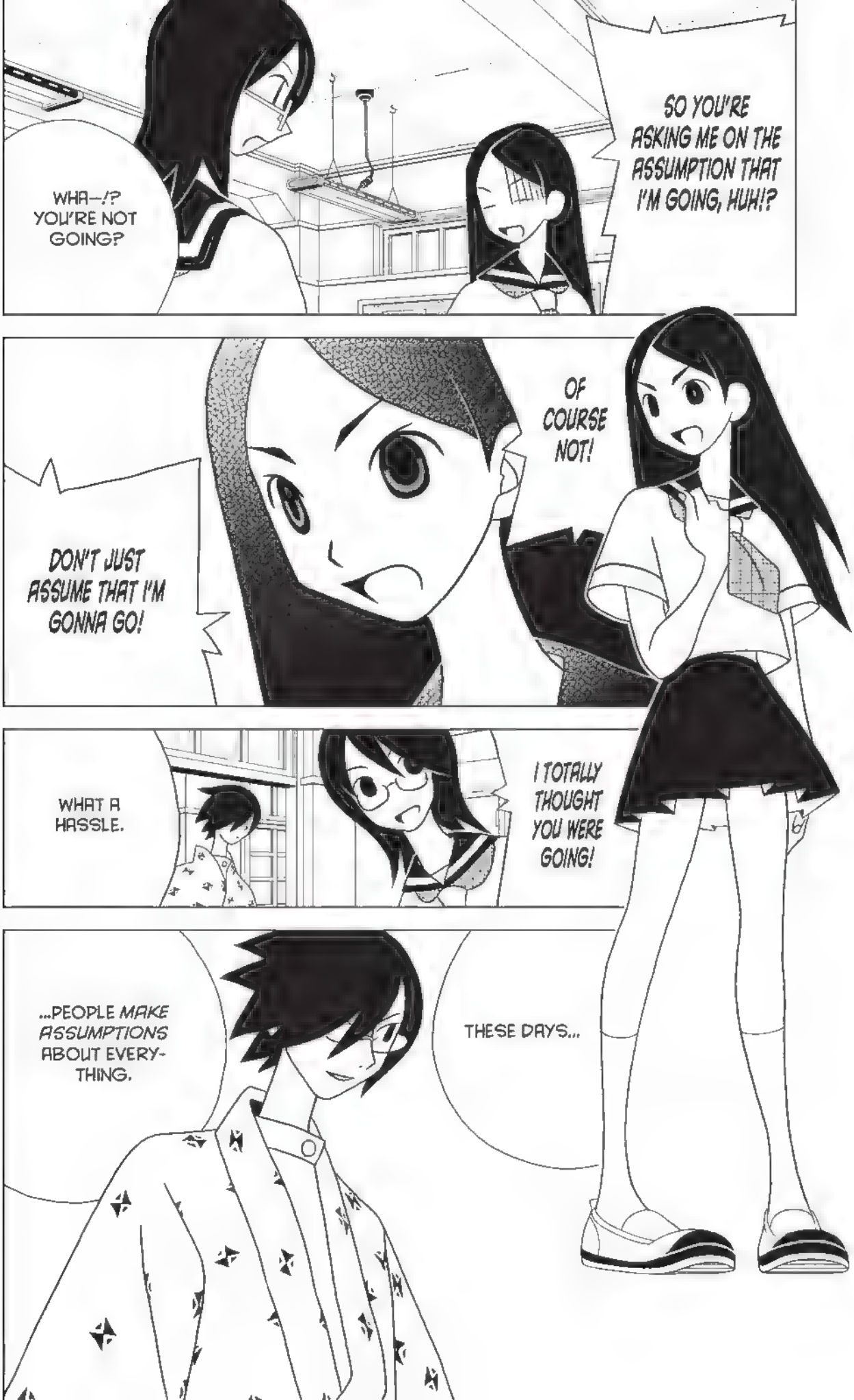
OLD FRIEND (ONE-DAY FRIEND)
OF NOZOMU ITOSHIKI:
HE LOVES EVERYTHING "OLD."

KURAIZAWA RENTAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION


ASSUMPTION
ASSUMPTION
ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT WE'RE BROTHER AND SISTER
ASSUMPTION
ASSUMPTION

CHAPTER 52

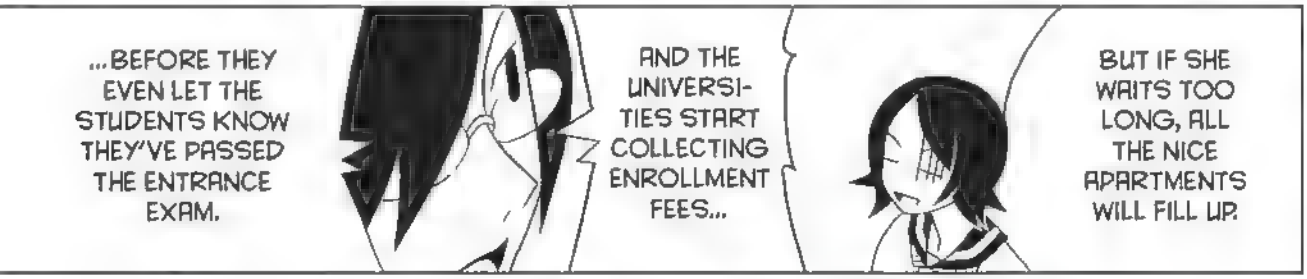
WHEN DO YOU WANNA GO SEE TENNIS PRINCE?


WHA—!? YOU'RE NOT GOING?
SO YOU'RE ASKING ME ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT I'M GOING, HUH!?
DON'T JUST ASSUME THAT I'M GONNA GO!
OF COURSE NOT!
WHAT A HASSLE.
I TOTALLY THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING!
...PEOPLE *MAKE ASSUMPTIONS* ABOUT EVERY-THING.
THESE DAYS...

YEAH, TSUBOI SHOULD PLAY CENTER BACK. HE'S SO FAST, HE'D BE PERFECT.
JAPAN SHOULD GO WITH THE THREE BACK DEFENSE STRATEGY WHEN THEY PLAY AGAINST ITALY.
QUIT ASSUMING THAT JAPAN WILL MAKE IT INTO THE FINALS.
HYA!
...THAN A CONVERSATION THAT IS WHOLLY BASED ON AN ASSUMPTION.
WHAT COULD BE MORE RUDE...
CALL MY CELL WHEN YOU GET THERE.
LIKE SETTING UP A MEETING WITH A FRIEND AND ASSUMING HE HAS A CELL PHONE!
OR PUBLIC BROADCASTERS LIKE NHK ASSUMING THAT EVERYBODY'S GONNA CONTRIBUTE MONEY!
FUNDING SHORTFALL
OR RELEASING A MOVIE ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT EVERYBODY'S READ THE ORIGINAL NOVEL!
KYAA
KYAA

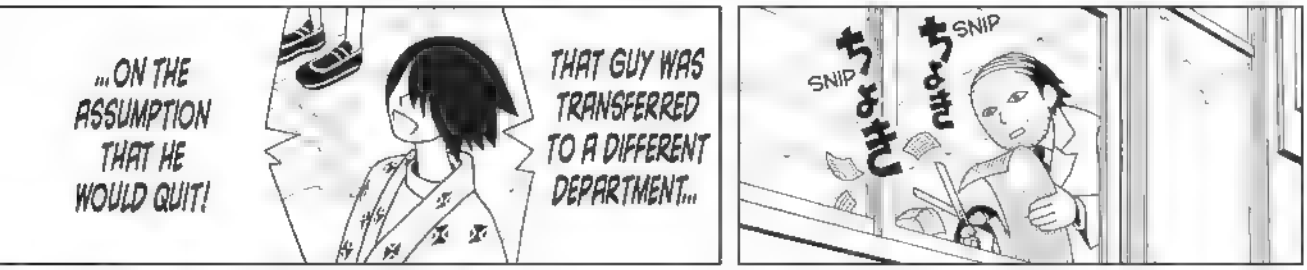
I'VE LOST ALL FAITH IN OUR ASSUMPTION-BASED SOCIETY.
IT'S HOPELESS.
I'LL SHOW YOU EXACTLY WHAT KIND OF TERRIBLE ASSUMPTIONS OUR SOCIETY IS BASED ON.
JUST TAKE A LOOK.
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS MODERN SOCIETY THAT REFUSES TO ASK THE HARD QUESTIONS.
LOOK! THERE'S ONE RIGHT THERE.
...ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THEY'RE GONNA GRADUATE.
COMPANIES MAKE TENTATIVE OFFERS TO STUDENTS...
I DON'T THINK IT WORKS THAT WAY... I MEAN, THAT'S WHY THEY CALL THEM "TENTATIVE" OFFERS ANYWAY...
THE COMPANIES SHOULD WAIT UNTIL AFTER GRADUATION.
BUT WHO KNOWS IF THEY'LL ACTUALLY GRADUATE.

SHE'S LOOKING FOR AN APARTMENT BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT HER SON IS GONNA GET INTO COLLEGE.
MUNEO REALTY
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS PLACE?
HERE'S ANOTHER EXAMPLE.


...BEFORE THEY EVEN LET THE STUDENTS KNOW THEY'VE PASSED THE ENTRANCE EXAM.
AND THE UNIVERSITIES START COLLECTING ENROLLMENT FEES...
BUT IF SHE WAITS TOO LONG, ALL THE NICE APARTMENTS WILL FILL UP.

...THAT'S MADE ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT HE'S GONNA LIVE TILL HE'S EIGHTY YEARS OLD!
AND IN ORDER TO PAY FOR HIS SON'S EDUCATION, THE FATHER IS FORCED TO SIGN UP FOR A LOAN...

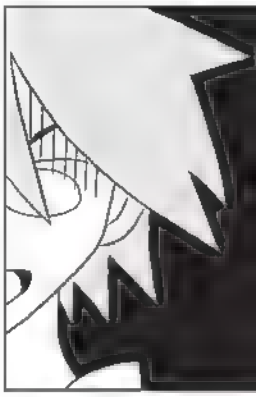
TRADING COMPANY
AND LEAVING A JOB IS NO DIFFERENT.
EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION... IT'S ALL BASED ON ASSUMPTIONS...


...ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT HE WOULD QUIT!
THAT GUY WAS TRANSFERRED TO A DIFFERENT DEPARTMENT...
SNIP
ちょき
SNIP
ちょき

LUIGI'S FINE FASHION
SALE
OH, I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE, ZETSUBOU-SENSEI.

...SO I PUT IT ON HOLD FOR YOU.
POISON!
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE THIS....

WHAT A HIDEOUS SHIRT.
HUH? I JUST THOUGHT IT'D LOOK GREAT ON YOU.
POISON!
NEVER PUT ANYTHING ON HOLD FOR ME BASED ON AN ASSUMPTION.



YOU KNOW, ASSUMPTIONS AREN'T ALWAYS BAD.

OF COURSE NOT!
DO YOU USUALLY WEAR GAUDY STUFF LIKE THAT?

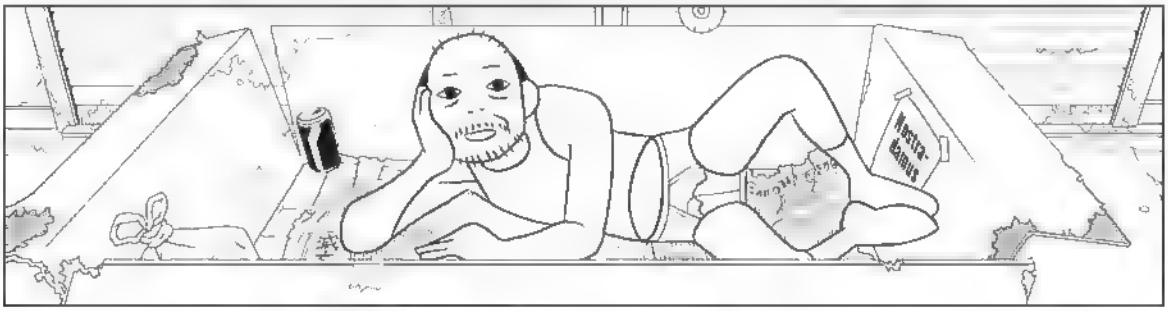
I'M SO LUCKY TO HAVE FOUND A GORGEOUS GIRL LIKE HER.
BUT SHE'S ONLY MARRYING YOU...

WE'RE DATING ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT WE'LL GET MARRIED AT SOME POINT.
AE SHOP

...ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT SHE'LL CASH IN WHEN YOU GET A DIVORCE.

LOOK HOW THIS GUY ENDED UP AFTER LIVING HIS LIFE BASED ON ASSUMPTIONS!
I'M TELLING YOU, YOU SHOULD NEVER ACT BASED ON AN ASSUMPTION.

IT'S THE SAME WITH ALL THE HOLLYWOOD ACTRESSES AND MOE YAMA**** TOO.
WHAT AN AWFUL THING TO SAY.

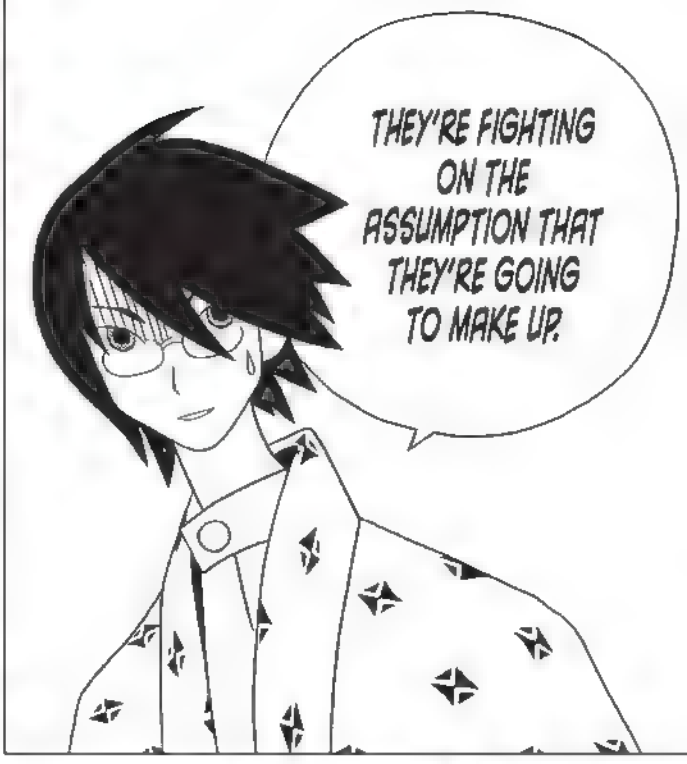

Manga-Bibles

HEE うひゃひゃ HEE
WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE ANY-WAY!
THE WORLD WAS SUPPOSED TO END!

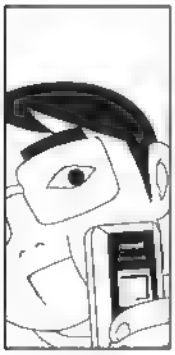
I LIVED MY LIFE BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE WORLD WOULD END IN 1999.

ARE THEY FIGHTING?
DON'T GO!
GET AWAY FROM ME.
LOOK AT THAT COUPLE OVER THERE. HERE IS A PARTICULARLY SHAMELESS AND ANNOYING ASSUMPTION.

WAIT! HEY!
だっ
FWOOSH
I HATE YOU!


THEY'RE FIGHTING ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THEY'RE GOING TO MAKE UP.

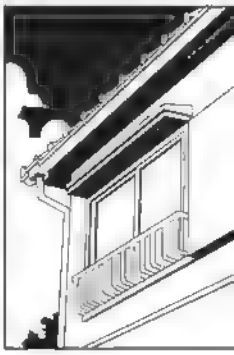
IT'S OVER!
THIS IS IT!
わあああ
WAHH

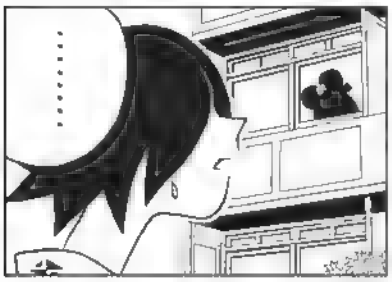


♪プルルル
RING RING

SPACING OUT
ぼーっ

すんすん
SNIFF SNIFF

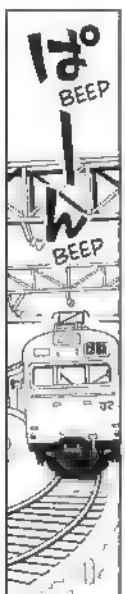



……

ぬちょお
SMOOCH
I LOVE YOU TOO!
I LOVE YOU!

SLAM!
ばっ

...IS THE MECCA OF ASSUMPTIONS.
AKIHABARA...
カセラト
HDDVD
アルプレイ


ぱ
BEEP
ーん
BEEP

YEAH, I KNOW COUPLES LIKE THAT.
THEY'RE ONLY FIGHTING SO THEY CAN SPICE UP THEIR LOVE LIFE A LITTLE.

I'M SICK AND TIRED OF THIS NEIGHBORHOOD'S DEPENDENCE ON ASSUMPTIONS.
MANSEIBASHI-KUN.
THIS IS GONNA BE TOO COMPLICATED FOR YOU TO EXPLAIN, SENSEI. LET ME TAKE OVER AND HANDLE THE DETAILS.
OPERATING SYSTEM SOFTWARE UPDATES ARE PRODUCED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE INITIAL OS WILL BE FULL OF ERRORS.
LOW-BUDGET ANIME DVDS ARE MADE ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT HARD-CORE FANS WILL BUY THEM NO MATTER HOW POOR THE QUALITY IS.
MISTER
Junior High School Girls?
DAWN BUD!
THE EROTIC VIDEO GAMES ARE MADE BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE CHARACTERS APPEARING IN THEM ARE OVER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN!
18
MANGA IS PUBLISHED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT IT'S GONNA BE MADE INTO AN ANIMATED SERIES!
FIRST OFF, EVERYTHING SOLD HERE IS BASED ON ASSUMPTIONS.
I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN...BUT IT SURE SEEMS HARD TO BE AN OTAKU.
A TRUE OTAKU WOULD NEVER DO SUCH A THING. SHAME! SHAME!
AND THEN THERE ARE GUYS WHO BUY STUFF THEY DON'T EVEN LIKE ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THEY'LL BE ABLE TO SELL IT AT A PROFIT.
WHY DON'T WE TAKE A LITTLE BREAK AT THIS CAFÉ?
THIS NEIGHBORHOOD IS SO PACKED WITH PEOPLE IT'S JUST EXHAUSTING.
YOU KNOW...
HOW DARE YOU TALK TO A CUSTOMER LIKE THAT!
HMMPH
HOW RUDE.
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU WANT?

...ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT OUR GUESTS WANT TO BE VERBALLY ABUSED.
THIS IS A TSUNDERE CAFÉ. WE WORK...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT.
SHOULDN'T YOU BE IN SCHOOL?
WHY ARE YOU WORKING HERE?
IT'S A CAFÉ WHERE THE WAITRESSES TREAT YOU LIKE CRAP AT FIRST, AND THEN ARE SWEET TO YOU LATER ON.
WHAT IS A *TSUNDERE CAFÉ* ANYWAY?
MEN LOVE GIRLS LIKE THAT.
UH...UM....I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
I NEVER EVEN WANTED YOU TO COME HERE. ♡

SHE'S ACTING ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT SHE'LL STAY SEVENTEEN FOREVER.
ISN'T SHE ACTING A LITTLE INAPPROPRIATELY FOR HER AGE?
UM... I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY THIS, BUT...
SHH
THERE ARE TOO MANY THINGS IN THIS WORLD THAT ARE BASED PURELY ON ASSUMPTIONS.
SHE'S SEVEN-TEEN!
THERE'S NO WAY...
• THE CURRENT PRIME MINISTER RULING UNDER THE ASSUMPTION THAT HE'LL BE RESIGNING IN SEPTEMBER.
• THE MAGAZINE PUBLISHER THAT ASSUMES THEY'LL BE ABLE TO PROFIT FROM THE SALES OF MANGA TANKOBON.
• GUYS WHO PREEMPTIVELY SHAVE THEIR HEADS ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THEY'LL SOON GO BALD
• JAPAN ACTING UNDER THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL ALWAYS PROTECT IT
• LAWS FORBIDDING THE PROSECUTION OF A MINOR EXIST ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT MINORS WILL NEVER COMMIT CRIMES.
• STALKERS WHO ASSUME THEIR TARGET IS IN LOVE WITH THEM.
• ORDERING COFFEE AT A CAFÉ IN NAGOYA ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT IT COMES WITH A SNACK.
• GETTING ARRESTED FOR MAKING THREATS ON THE WEB (I WILL BLOW UP AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL) UNDER THE ASSUMPTION THAT IT WILL BE TAKEN AS A JOKE.
THE WHOLE WORLD IS ONE BIG ASSUMPTION!
...DOES NOT NEED TWO SUCCESSORS.
THE ZETSUBOU SCHOOL OF KARATE...
HA, HA, HA, I FOUND YOU AT LAST.
WHOA, WHAT A SUDDEN TURN OF EVENTS! OUT OF THE BLUE COMES AN ENEMY WHO THREATENS TO TAKE ZETSUBOU-SENSEI'S LIFE.
I'M GONNA KILL YOU.

THAT WAS FAST!
HE'S THE ENEMY CHARACTER THAT SHOWS UP IN THE STORY UNDER THE ASSUMPTION THAT HE'LL END UP BECOMING FRIENDS WITH THE SENSEI.

OKAY.
LET'S GO TO A BATTING CAGE.

I KNOW, BUT...
IT HAPPENS ALL THE TIME IN SHONEN MANGA.

HOW COULD YOU SAY THAT?
WELL, THEN... IT SOUNDS LIKE THEY WERE MEANT FOR EACH OTHER.

HE MADE IT UP.
WHAT THE HECK IS THE ZETSUBOU SCHOOL OF KARATE?

LEE NAKANAO

SEVENTH GENERATION LEADER OF THE SECRET UNDERGROUND SOCIETY

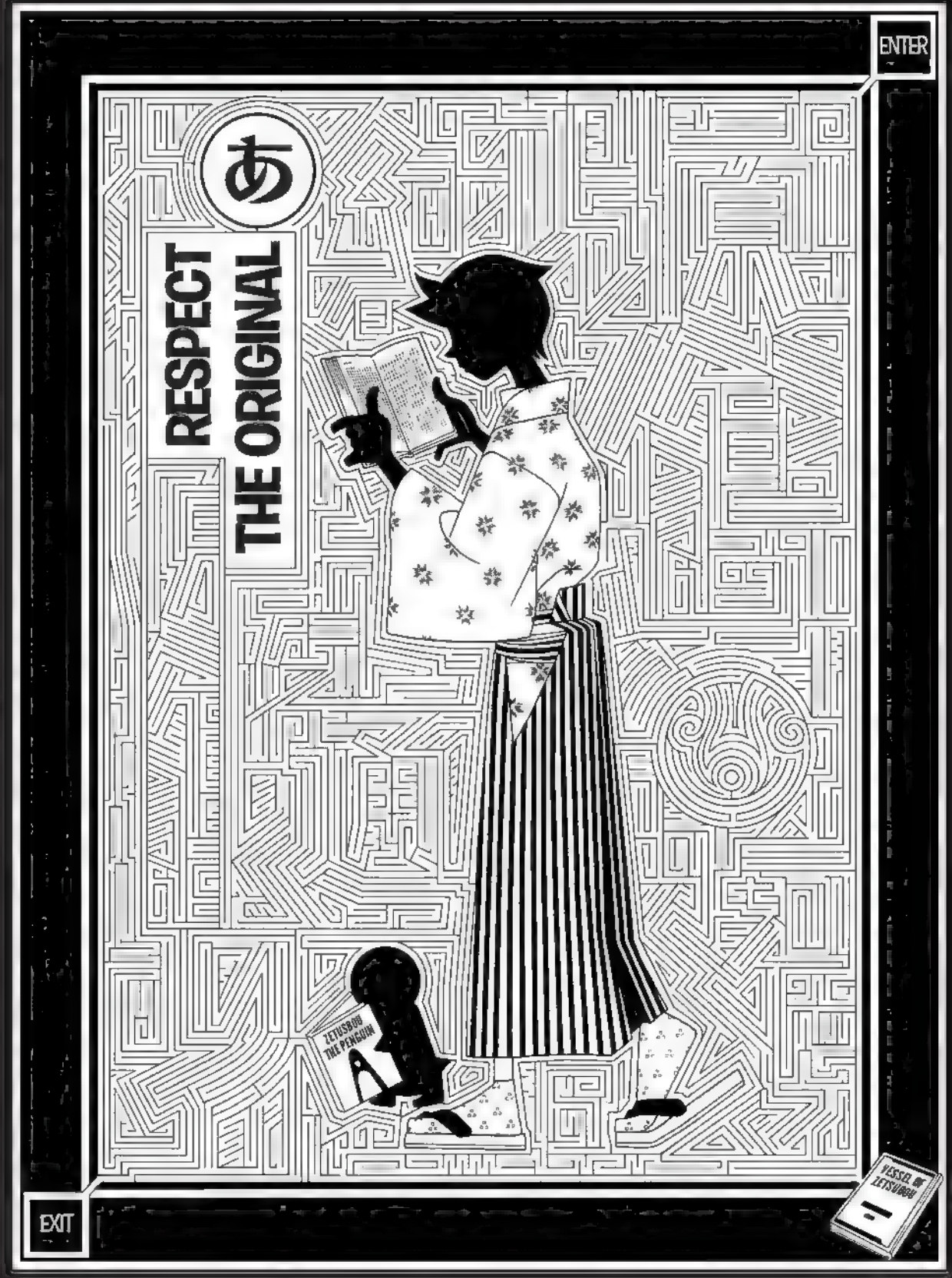
AGE - 26
HEIGHT - 181 CM, WEIGHT - 68 KG
BLOOD TYPE - AB, SHOE SIZE - 9
HP - 217, MP - 17

LIKES: WATCHING HIS ENEMIES QUAKE IN FEAR
DISLIKES: ANYBODY WHO FIGHTS FOR JUSTICE
TALENT: SNEAKING UP BEHIND HIS FOE WITHOUT MAKING THE SLIGHTEST SOUND
WEAPON: THE MAGICAL BLADE "GARASHA"
PERSONALITY: COLDHEARTED AND FULL OF PRIDE. TAKES EVERY INSULT PERSONALLY.

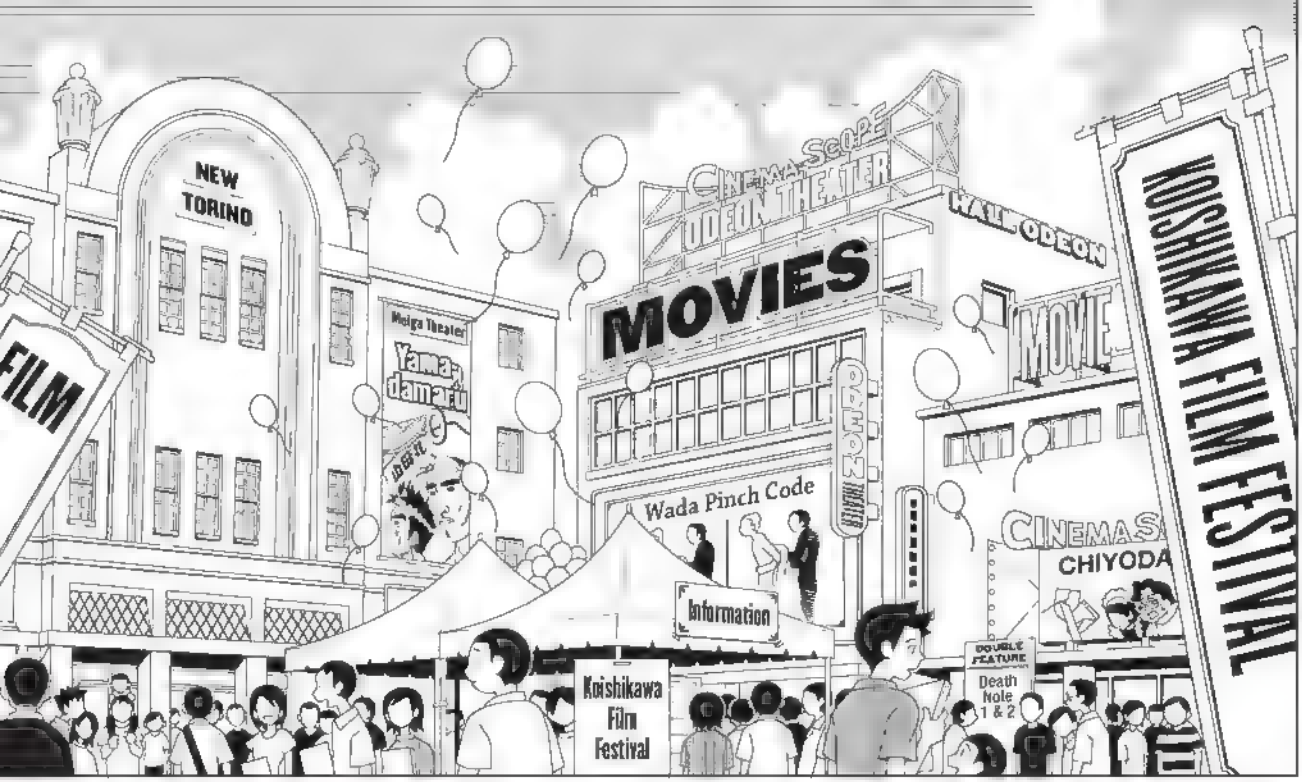
CHARACTER DESCRIPTION

HIS EYE PATCH IS ACTUALLY A RESTRAINT DEVICE. WHEN HE TAKES IT OFF, HE GOES BERSERK AND TURNS EXTREMELY VIOLENT. WHEN IN BERSERK-MODE HE IS UNSTOPPABLE AND WILL KILL ANYTHING THAT MOVES. AFTER SNAPPING OUT OF BERSERK MODE, HE MUST SLEEP FOR THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS. ALTHOUGH HE'S COLDHEARTED, HE IS AN ART LOVER. HIS FAVORITE PAINTING IS PABLO PICASSO'S *GUERNICA*.

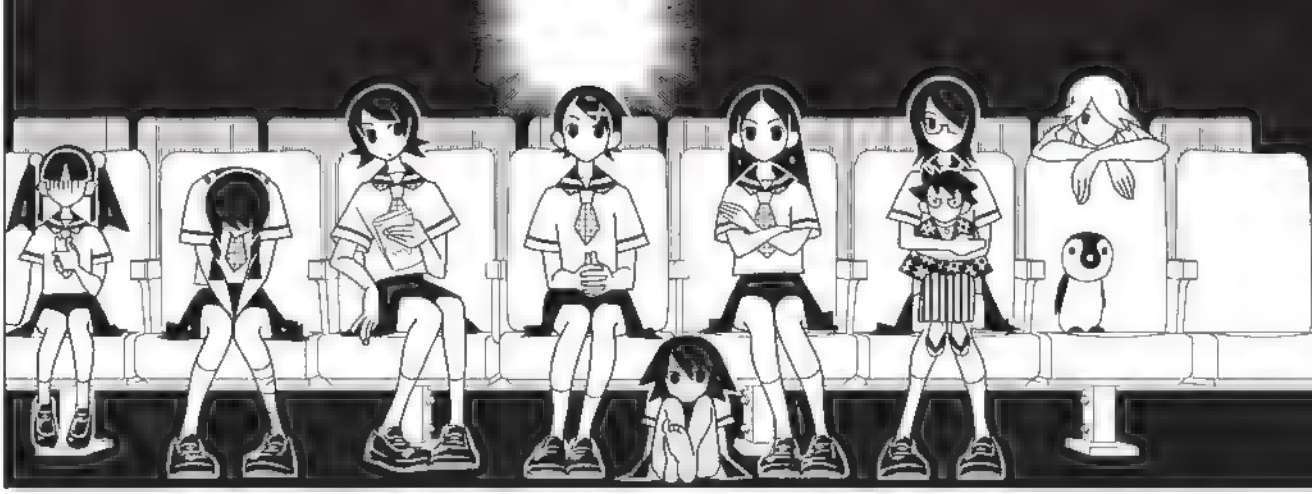
HE IS CURRENTLY PREPARING TO DO BATTLE WITH THE DEVIL LIGHT SOCIETY, AND IS SEARCHING FOR WARRIORS WITH SEVEN MARKS AND ATTRIBUTIONS. HIS ATTRIBUTION IS WATER, AND IT GIVES HIM MASSIVE POWER. HIS FLAME SKIRT CONCEALS HIS POWER. IT WAS PASSED DOWN TO HIM BY HIS FORMER MASTER.


ENTER
RESPECT
THE ORIGINAL
ZETUSBOB
THE PENGUIN
VESSEL OF
LETSUBOB
EXIT

CHAPTER 53


NEW TORINO
FILM
Meiga Theater
Yama-dampfu
CINEMA SCOPE
ODEON THEATER
MOVIES
HALL ODEON
MOVIE
ODEON
Wada Pinch Code
Information
Koishikawa Film Festival
CINEMAS
CHIYODA
DOUBLE FEATURE
Death Note 1 & 2
KOISHIKAWA FILM FESTIVAL

カタ
CLICK
カタ
CLICK
POPCORN



THE STORY WAS SO PREDICTABLE, AND THE CHARACTERS WERE SUCH A BORE.
STORY
THAT WAS A BORING MOVIE.

THE END

I TOTALLY STUCK TO THE ORIGINAL STORY THAT IT WAS BASED ON.
Who stole the drama?
BUT...

MR. DIRECTOR, FOLLOW ME.
WH-WHO ARE YOU?

"BASED ON" BOULEVARD
HURRY!
"BASED ON" BOULEVARD
HUH? WHAT'S THIS STREET!?
THIS STREET IS CALLED "BASED ON" BOULEVARD...
IT'S AN ESCAPE ROUTE.
WHY'S EVERYONE SO UPSET? ALL I DID WAS MAKE A MOVIE BASED EXACTLY ON THE ORIGINAL STORY.
SURE WAS.
THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE, MR. DIRECTOR.
HOBBY

THAT'S AN EXCUSE?
IT'S A TYPICAL EXCUSE USED THROUGHOUT THE FILM INDUSTRY.
WHAT HE MEANS IS, "ALL I DID WAS MAKE A MOVIE BASED EXACTLY ON THE ORIGINAL STORY, SO I'M NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FILM'S QUALITY."

OH, FORGET IT...
MR. DIRECTOR, THAT'S MY LINE...
I'VE LOST ALL FAITH IN A WORLD WHERE DIRECTORS GET CRITICIZED EVEN THOUGH THEY FOLLOW THE ORIGINAL STORY TO A T.
IT'S HOPELESS!

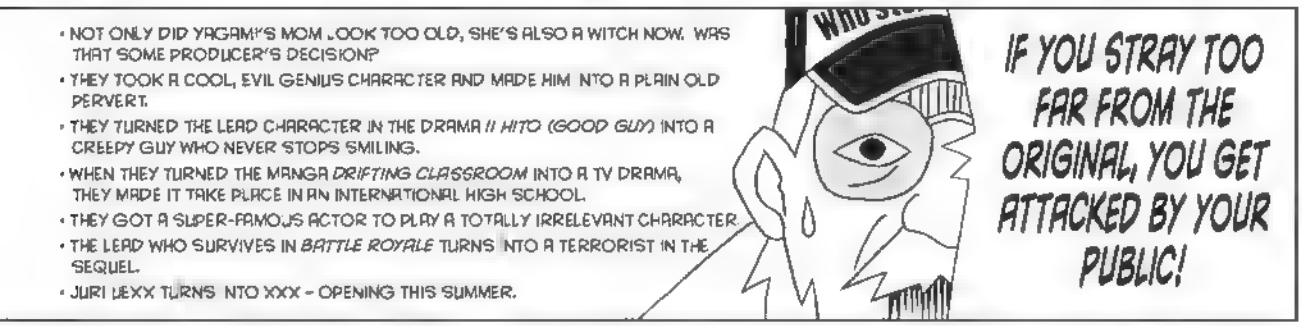
BUT IT'S BASED ON THE ORIGINAL STORY.
AREN'T THERE TOO MANY MALE CHARACTERS?
IT'S BASED ON THE ORIGINAL STORY.
WHY DID YOU MAKE ALL THE FIGHT SCENES HAPPEN IN DAYLIGHT?
SO MANY DIRECTORS AND PRODUCERS HAVE ESCAPED THROUGH "BASED ON" BOULEVARD.

WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YEAH!
ISN'T IT THE DIRECTOR'S JOB TO MAKE THE MOVIE A LITTLE MORE INTERESTING THAN THE ORIGINAL?

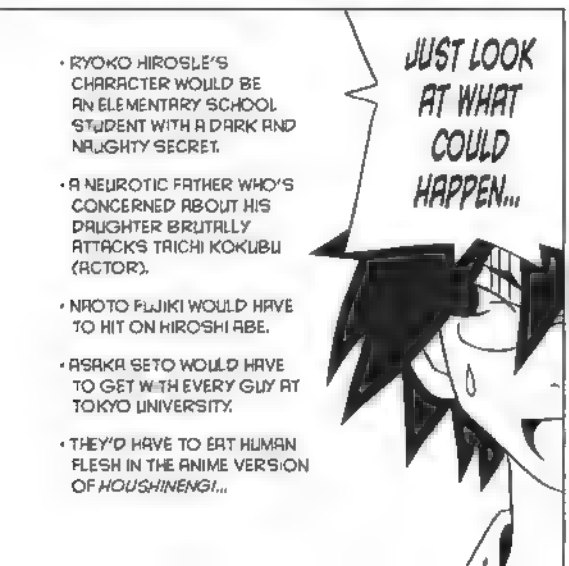
...."BASED ON" BOULEVARD, HUH?
AN ESCAPE ROUTE CALLED...
IT WOULD BE DISRESPECTFUL TO THE AUTHOR IF THE MOVIE WAS MORE INTERESTING THAN THE ORIGINAL BOOK!
WEST PARK
WGP
The Bridges of Madison County
BAR

JUST TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT HAPPENED TO FILM-MAKERS WHO STRAYED FROM THE ORIGINAL MATERIAL AND DIDN'T WALK DOWN "BASED ON" BOULEVARD.
YOU BASTARD!
WHACK
SMACK
バキ
ドカ
YOU RUINED THE WHOLE STORY!

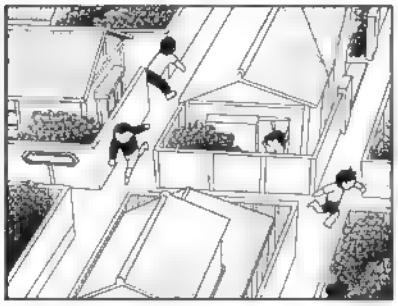
- NOT ONLY DID YAGAMI'S MOM LOOK TOO OLD, SHE'S ALSO A WITCH NOW. WAS THAT SOME PRODUCER'S DECISION?
- THEY TOOK A COOL, EVIL GENIUS CHARACTER AND MADE HIM INTO A PLAIN OLD PERVERT.
- THEY TURNED THE LEAD CHARACTER IN THE DRAMA *II HITO (GOOD GUY)* INTO A CREEPY GUY WHO NEVER STOPS SMILING.
- WHEN THEY TURNED THE MANGA *DRIFTING CLASSROOM* INTO A TV DRAMA, THEY MADE IT TAKE PLACE IN AN INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL.
- THEY GOT A SUPER-FAMOUS ACTOR TO PLAY A TOTALLY IRRELEVANT CHARACTER.
- THE LEAD WHO SURVIVES IN *BATTLE ROYALE* TURNS INTO A TERRORIST IN THE SEQUEL.
- JURI LEXX TURNS INTO XXX – OPENING THIS SUMMER.



- RYOKO HIROSUE'S CHARACTER WOULD BE AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT WITH A DARK AND NAUGHTY SECRET.
- A NEUROTIC FATHER WHO'S CONCERNED ABOUT HIS DAUGHTER BRUTALLY ATTACKS TAICHI KOKUBU (ACTOR).
- NAOTO FUJIKI WOULD HAVE TO HIT ON HIROSHI ABE.
- ASAKA SETO WOULD HAVE TO GET WITH EVERY GUY AT TOKYO UNIVERSITY.
- THEY'D HAVE TO EAT HUMAN FLESH IN THE ANIME VERSION OF *HOUSHINENGI*...



Manga series based on Vessel of Zetsubou Published in Shonen Magazine.
Vessel of Tetsubou
PRINCESS OF RUPUTTA
Vessel of Tetsubou
Tsuka Hara
Check out the manga series in Magazine.
IN FACT, THIS VERY MANGA...
...IS BASED ON THE NOVEL VESSEL OF ZETSUBOU.



THAT EXPLAINS WHY THERE ARE SO MANY ESCAPE ROUTES HERE.
THIS WHOLE TOWN WAS FORMED BY PEOPLE WHO LEFT SOMETHING BEHIND AND NEVER LOOKED BACK.

RECIPE BOULEVARD

I FOLLOWED THE RECIPE WORD FOR WORD...
WHAT ELSE COULD I DO?

BUT IF YOU FOLLOWED THE RECIPE PRECISELY, THEN IT SHOULD'VE BEEN GOOD, RIGHT?
NOW, NOW, THIS IS AN ESCAPE ROUTE...NO NEED FOR THAT KIND OF TALK.
EVARD

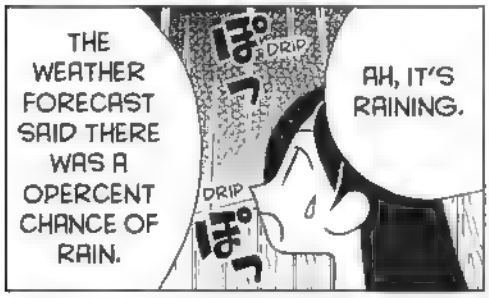
THIS ESCAPE ROUTE IS CALLED "RECIPE BOULEVARD."
RECIPE BOULEVARD
MANY A HOUSEWIFE HAVE ESCAPED ALONG THIS PATH.

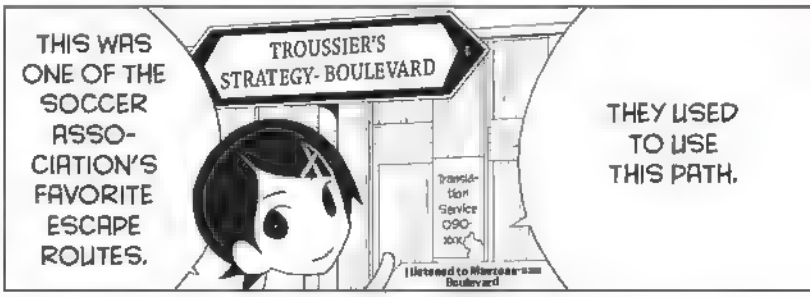
I FOLLOWED THE RECIPE, SO IT'S NOT MY FAULT.
THERE ARE PLENTY OF OTHER ESCAPE ROUTES IN THIS TOWN.
MANUAL DOOR
OMO

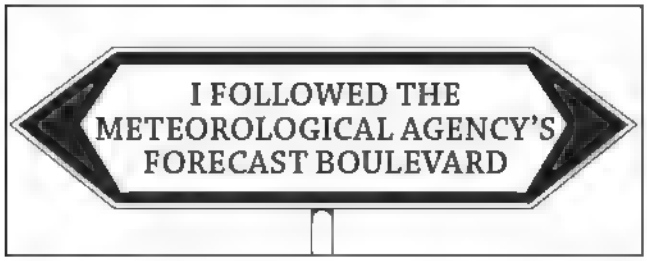
THIS IS A BRAND-NEW BOULEVARD.
I HOPE NOBODY USES IT.

ZICO'S ORDERS BOULEVARD

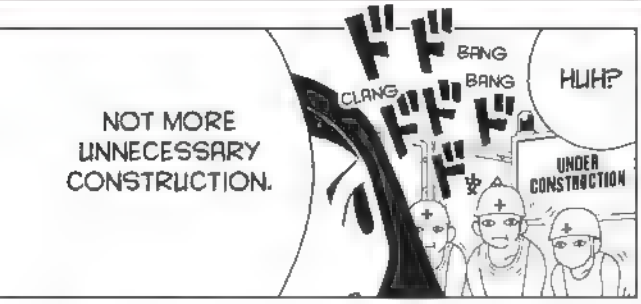
I DON'T THINK ZICO ORDERS HIS PLAYERS AROUND MUCH DURING GAMES.
ZICO'S ORDERS BOULEVARD
Exclusively for Izuno-sama.
...WHENEVER THEY SAY "I JUST DID WHAT COACH ZICO TOLD ME TO. IT'S NOT MY FAULT."
SOCCER PLAYERS USE THIS AS AN ESCAPE ROUTE...

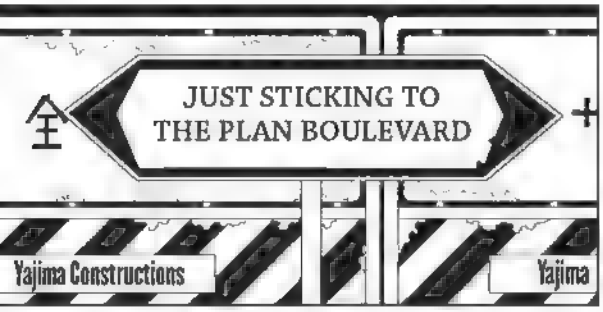


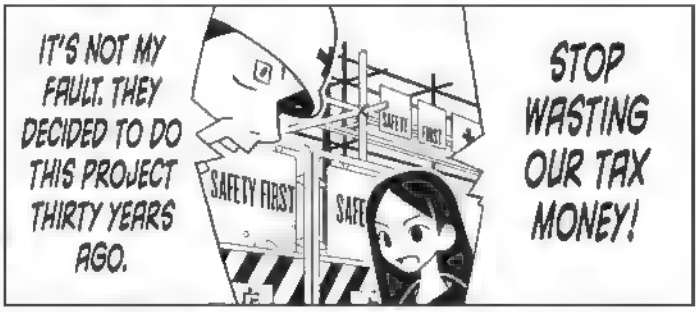

THIS WAS ONE OF THE SOCCER ASSO-CIATION'S FAVORITE ESCAPE ROUTES.
TROUSSIER'S STRATEGY- BOULEVARD
Transla-tion Service 090-xxx
I followed to Meteoro-sama Boulevard
THEY USED TO USE THIS PATH.



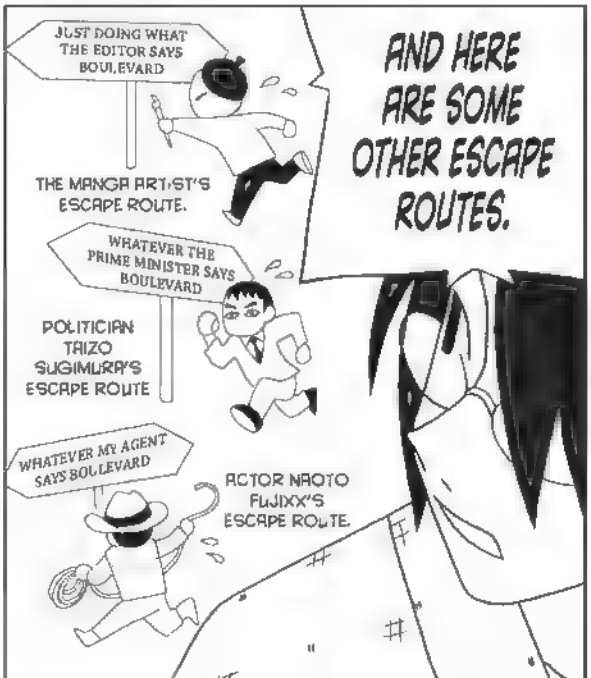
I FOLLOWED THE DOMINATRIX'S COMMANDS BOULEVARD







GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS NEVER ALTER ANY KIND OF PLAN ONCE IT'S PASSED.
GENERAL CONTRACTORS AND POLITICIANS LOVE TO USE IT AS AN ESCAPE ROUTE.
THIS PATH IS CALLED JUST STICKING TO THE PLAN BOULEVARD.


JUST DOING WHAT THE EDITOR SAYS BOULEVARD
THE MANGA ARTIST'S ESCAPE ROUTE.
WHATEVER THE PRIME MINISTER SAYS BOULEVARD
POLITICIAN TAIZO SUGIMURA'S ESCAPE ROUTE
WHATEVER MY AGENT SAYS BOULEVARD
ACTOR NAOTO FUJIXX'S ESCAPE ROUTE.
AND HERE ARE SOME OTHER ESCAPE ROUTES.

PAT
ぽむっ
第一

THAT WAS INEVITABLE!
PWUP
ぱっ
AAHH!

AH.

YOU'VE GOT TWO OPTIONS!

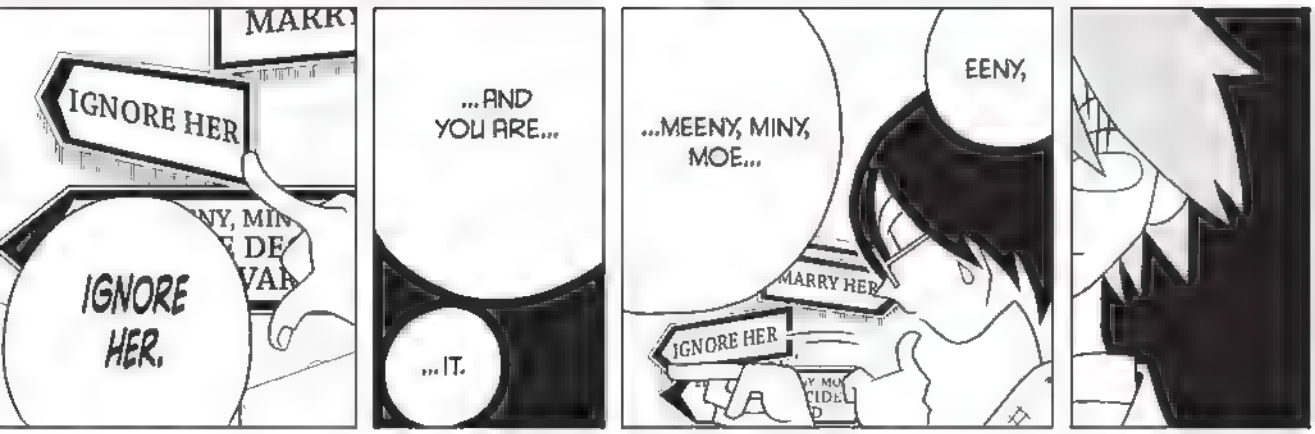
YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY THIS TIME!

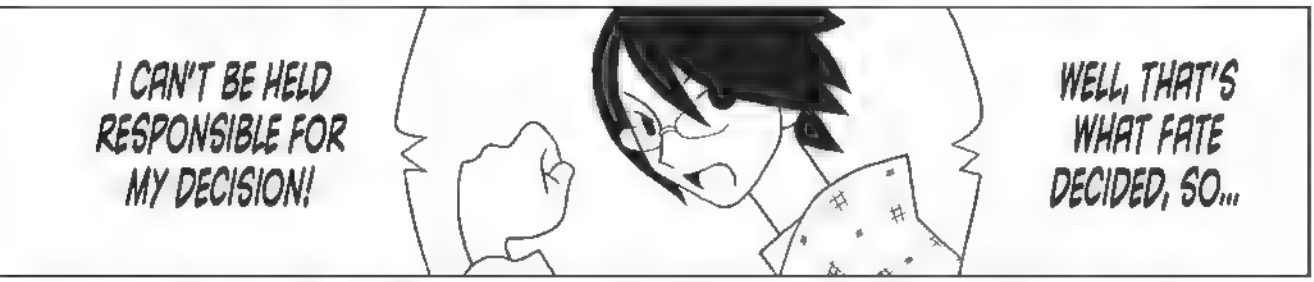
OR YOU CAN CLAIM THAT I'M DELUSIONAL AND IGNORE ME.
I was sexually assaulted by a male teacher!
Stop Incels.
YOU CAN TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY AND MARRY ME...

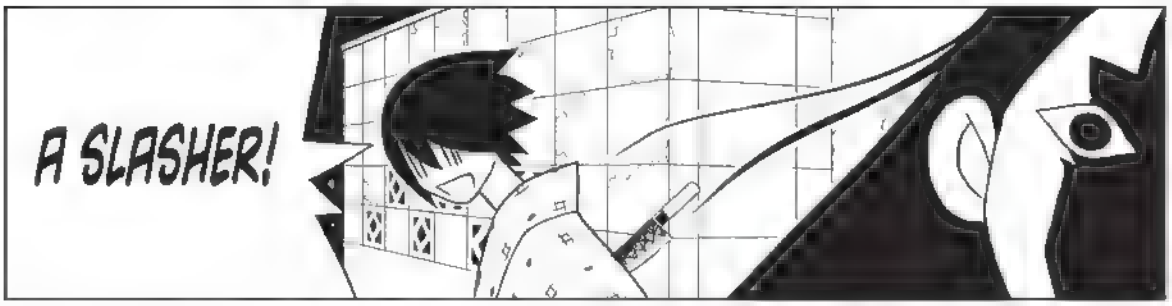
COME THIS WAY.
ISN'T THERE AN ESCAPE ROUTE FOR ME?

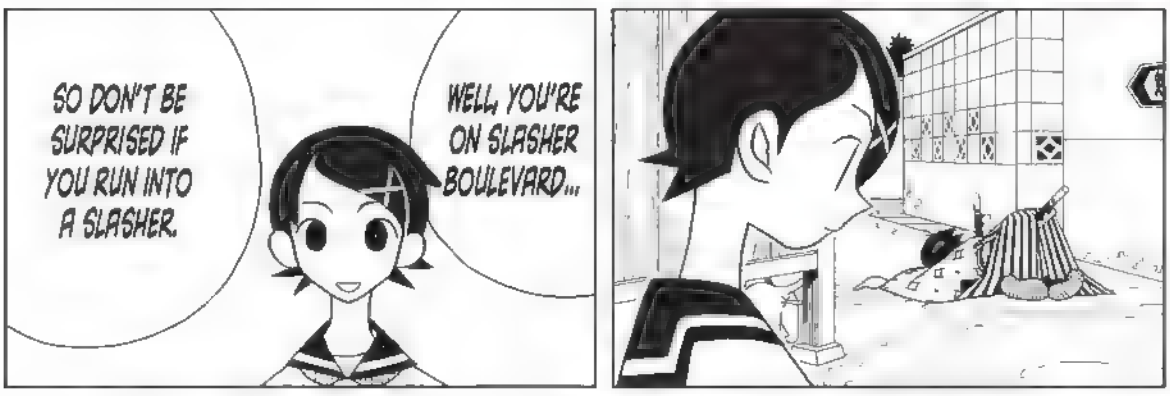
I CAN'T DECIDE!
BOTH OPTIONS SOUND TERRIFYING!

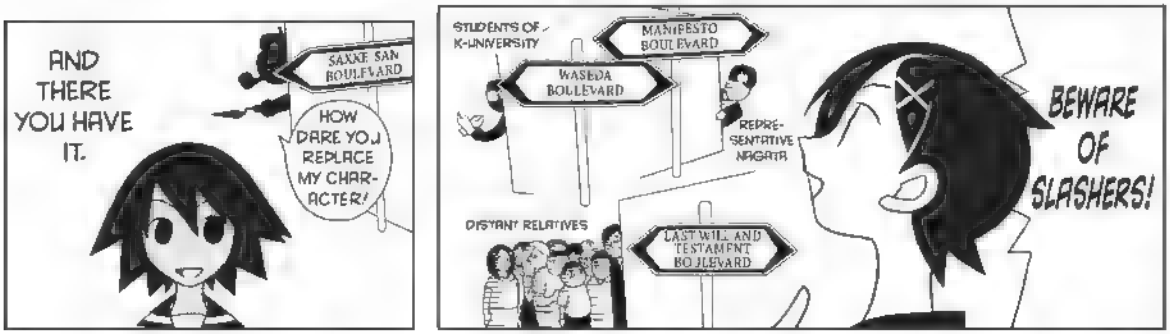
EENY, MEENY, MINY, MOE, LET FATE DECIDE BOULEVARD






A SLASHER!

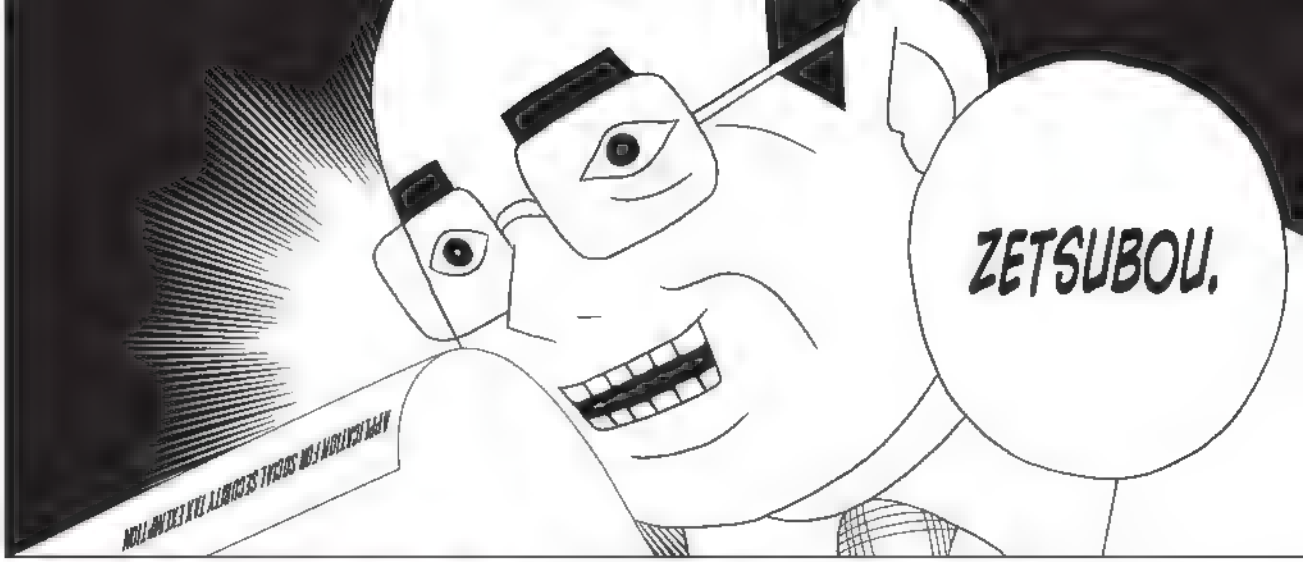

SO DON'T BE SURPRISED IF YOU RUN INTO A SLASHER.
WELL, YOU'RE ON SLASHER BOULEVARD...


AND THERE YOU HAVE IT.
SAXXE SAN BOULEVARD
HOW DARE YOU REPLACE MY CHARACTER!
STUDENTS OF K-UNIVERSITY
MANIFESTO BOULEVARD
WASEDA BOULEVARD
REPRESENTATIVE NAGATA
DISTANT RELATIVES
LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT BOULEVARD
BEWARE OF SLASHERS!

TWO KNIVES?

CHAPTER 54

KOISHIKAWA CITY HALL
SOCIAL SECURITY DEPARTMENT
Thursday, June 21
Wanted
TICK TOCK
TICK TOCK
ちっちっちっ
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE.
Thank you for paying with a smile.
ITOSHIKI-SAN.
APPLICATION FOR SOCIAL SECURITY TAX EXEMPTION
NAME
Nozomu Itoshiki
If you qualify for tax-exempt status,
you have the right to terminate your
ITOSHIKI-SAN.
NOZOMU...


ZETSUBOU.

HA HA
ふ ふ
WHEN YOU COMBINE THE CHARACTERS IN YOUR NAME IT SPELLS ZETSUBOU.

YOU MIGHT FIND IT FUNNY, BUT...
ZETSUBOU!
ふ ふ ふ ふ
HA HA HA
AMAZING! THIS IS JUST AMAZING!

...A MILLION TIMES!
I'VE HEARD IT...

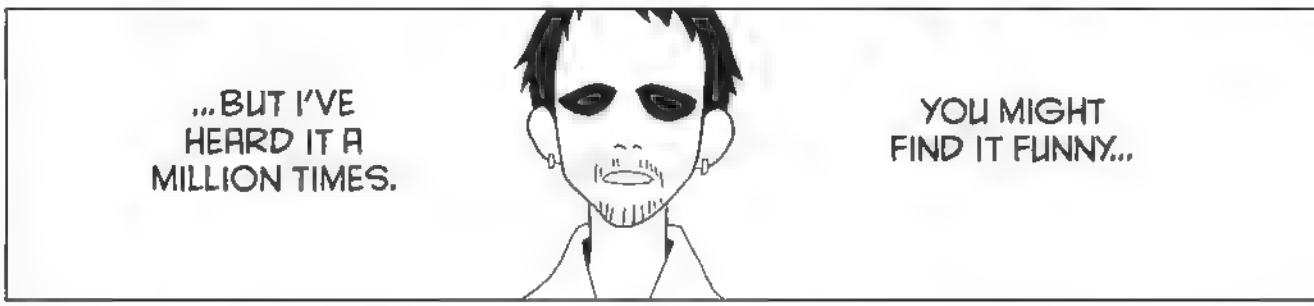
YOU MIGHT FIND IT FUNNY, BUT I'VE HEARD IT A MILLION TIMES.

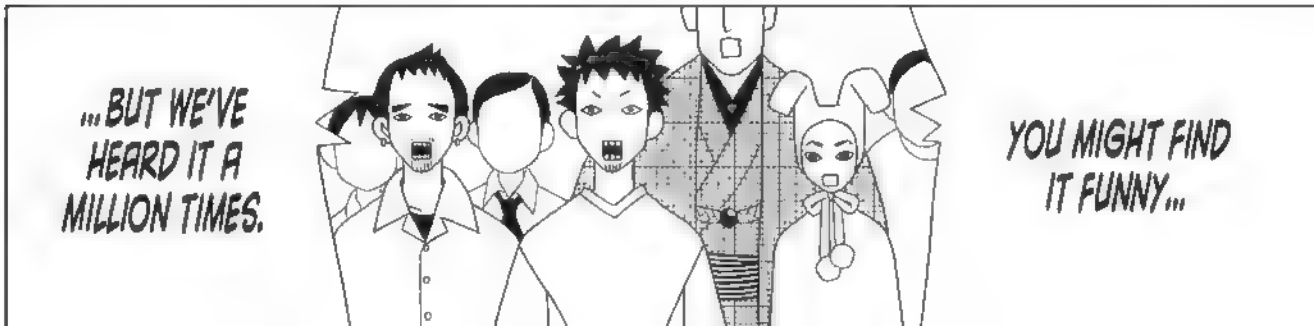
SO, TELL ME, DO YOU EAT A LOT OF YOGURT?
SADOGATAKETSU
I'M HERE WITH SUMO WRESTLER KOTOUSHUU WHO HAILS FROM BULGARIA.
...I'VE HEARD IT A MILLION TIMES BEFORE.
YOU MIGHT FIND IT FUNNY, BUT...
I BET YOU'RE ALWAYS SHOUTING OUT "LET'S LAUNCH!"
AMURO...
YOUR NAME IS AMURO-CHAN?
THIS IS AMURO FROM OUR AGENCY.
...BUT I'VE HEARD IT A MILLION TIMES.
YOU MIGHT FIND IT FUNNY...

HOW COME SUNDAY MAGAZINE GOES ON SALE ON WEDNESDAY?
HELLO, SHONEN SUNDAY.

...I'VE HEARD IT A MILLION TIMES.
YOU MIGHT FIND IT FUNNY, BUT...

IS THE NEXT VERSION GONNA BE CALLED "WINNING ELEVEN 11"?
WINNING ELEVEN 10
Q&A with the developer of Winning Eleven 10!
DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS YOU'D LIKE TO ASK THE GAME DEVELOPER?


...BUT I'VE HEARD IT A MILLION TIMES.
YOU MIGHT FIND IT FUNNY...

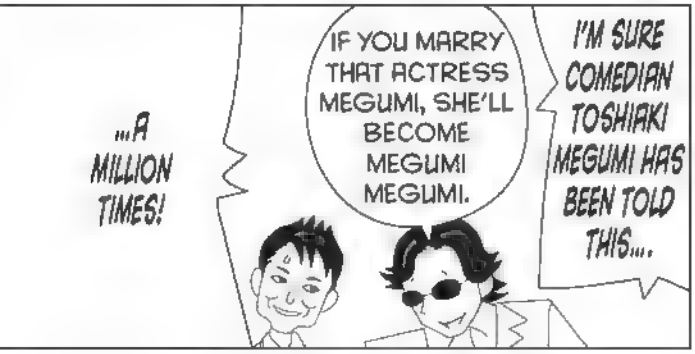

...BUT WE'VE HEARD IT A MILLION TIMES.
YOU MIGHT FIND IT FUNNY...

WAH.
APOLOGIZE RIGHT NOW! APOLOGIZE TO EVERY PERSON WHO'S EVER BEEN TOLD THE SAME THING A MILLION TIMES.
IN CASES LIKE THESE THERE'S A HUGE GAP BETWEEN THE SPEAKER AND THE LISTENER.
THE LISTENER HAS HEARD THE JOKE SO MANY TIMES THAT HE'S SICK AND TIRED OF IT.
D D YOU BLOCK THE BALL WITH YOUR FACE?
THE SPEAKER MAY THINK HE'S MAKING A HILARIOUS OBSERVATION, BUT...
POTTE RESIDENCE
POTTE RESIDENCE
HUH?
I BET YOU'VE HEARD A MILLION POTTY JOKES!
I FEEL SORRY FOR YOU, POTTE-SAN.

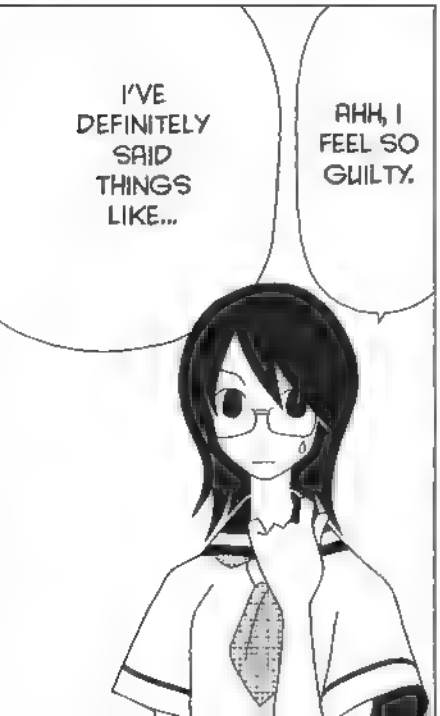
ぷっ
HEH
SO ARE YOU AND YOUR WIFE BOTH GAY?
THE GAY RESIDENCE
DING
DONG
I'M SURE YOU'VE HEARD THAT ONE A MILLION TIMES.
?
I FEEL SORRY FOR YOU, MR. AND MRS. GAY!
...YOU'LL BECOME KANA LINGUS.
HEY KANA-CHAN, IF YOU MARRY A MAN NAMED MR. LINGUS...
APOLOGIZE RIGHT NOW! APOLOGIZE TO EVERY PERSON WHO'S EVER BEEN TOLD THE SAME THING A MILLION TIMES.
WAH.
...WHO ARE SICK OF HEARING THE SAME LAME JOKES OVER AND OVER AGAIN.
THIS WORLD IS FULL OF PEOPLE...

...A MILLION TIMES!
YOU MUST BE REALLY GOOD AT SOCCER... JUST LIKE CAPTAIN TSUBASA!
EVERY KID NAMED TSUBASA PROBABLY HEARS THIS...
SOCCER CLUB

...WHICH SHE'S ALSO HEARD A MILLION TIMES.
THAT'S JUST THE WAY IT IS, RIGHT?
RIGHT?
THEN A HARD-CORE OTAKU OVERHEARS THAT AND CHIMES IN ...


...A MILLION TIMES!
IF YOU MARRY THAT ACTRESS MEGUMI, SHE'LL BECOME MEGUMI MEGUMI.
I'M SURE COMEDIAN TOSHIAKI MEGUMI HAS BEEN TOLD THIS....

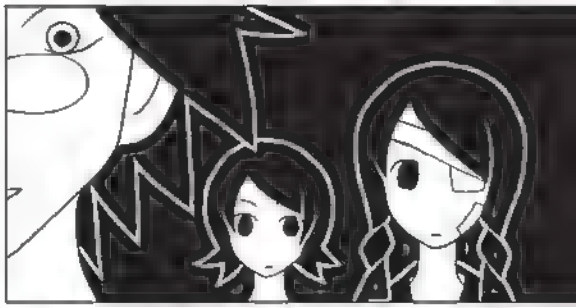
...A MILLION TIMES!
YOU'RE SO LUCKY TO GET ROKKOU SPRING WATER STRAIGHT FROM THE TAP.
THE RESIDENTS OF ROKKOU MUST'VE HEARD PEOPLE SAY THIS...
ROKKOU RESIDENT



- YOUR NAME IS RYU, BUT YOU'RE NOT USING AU CELL PHONE SERVICE.
- TOKYO DISNEYLAND ISN'T EVEN IN TOKYO.
- CAN I HAVE A SMILE, PLEASE?
- DOES A CUP OF VIENNA COFFEE COME WITH A VIENNA SAUSAGE IN IT?
- ARE THE KINKI KIDS BROTHERS?
- GOKU'S WIFE'S NAME IS CHICHI, WHICH MEANS "DAD," BUT SHE'S ACTUALLY A MOM.
- THE VEGGIE DRINK ONE DAY'S VEGGIES COMES IN DIFFERENT SIZES, SO WHICH ONE IS ACTUALLY ONE DAY'S WORTH OF VEGGIES?
- I THOUGHT THERE REALLY WAS A SCHOOL CALLED OOIZUMIGAKUEN.
- VIDEO GAME CHAMPION TAKAHASHI MUST BE GREAT IN BED...HE'S GOT SUCH FAST FINGERS.
- WHICH PREFECTURE IS SHIMANE IN?
- WHAT'S UP WITH THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. WHICH ONE IS IT, TRINIDAD OR TOBAGO?
- HIDEYASU NAKADA LOOKED REALLY EVIL IN THE MANGA *THE STORY OF TSUNEYASU MIYAMOTO*.
- IF I TOLD YOU, I'D HAVE TO KILL YOU.

* SHONEN MEANS YOUNG BOY.

BASEBALL MAGAZINES HAVE ARTICLES ABOUT BASEBALL!
SOCCER MAGAZINE
BASEBALL MAGAZINE
SOCCER MAGAZINES HAVE ARTICLES ABOUT SOCCER!



I'D SAY YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE.
NOPE...
...A MILLION TIMES!
BUT I'M SURE THEY'VE BEEN ASKED THAT...
ARE YOU TWO A COUPLE?
SERIOUSLY? SHE JUST REALIZED THAT?
FWOOSH
OH MY GOD! I JUST REALIZED, I'M NOT LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE!
THIS BUSINESS CARD BELONGS TO THE EDITOR OF THIS MANGA.
CHECK THIS OUT.
...THERE ARE DEFINITELY PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO HAVE TO PUT UP WITH HEARING THE SAME DUMB QUESTIONS A MILLION TIMES OVER.
OKAY, FUJIYOSHI-SAN MIGHT BE AN EXCEPTION, BUT...
WEEKLY SHONEN MAGAZINE
Tetsuya Takeda
THE AUTHOR OF THIS MANGA WAITED SIX MONTHS BEFORE MAKING A JOKE ABOUT THIS!
BUT YOU JUST DID EXACTLY THAT.
I'M SURE HE'S SICK OF PEOPLE TELLING HIM HE HAS THE SAME NAME AS THAT FAMOUS ACTOR, SO I'VE REFRAINED FROM JOKING ABOUT IT.
WEEKLY SHONEN MA
Tetsuya Takeda
KODAN
112-80001 TOKYO

...THAT'S BEEN TOLD A MILLION TIMES BEFORE!
TAKUYA KIMURA, WHO PLAYS FOR THE HIROSHIMA CARP, HAS THE SAME NAME AS SMAP'S KIMUTAKU!
NIKAIDOU-SAN LIVES ON THE 3RD FLOOR. BUT NIKAI MEANS "2ND FLOOR" IN JAPANESE. HA, HA, HA.
3F
INUKAI-SAN HAS A PET CAT. BUT INUKAI MEANS "DOG OWNER" IN JAPANESE. HA, HA, HA.
PID OLYMPIC ATHLETE ANNUS ZSOLT ADRIAN HIDE A CLEAN URINE SAMPLE IN HIS ANUS? HA, HA, HA.
MATSUKO-SAN IS POPULAR, EVEN THOUGH MATSUKO-SAN FROM THAT FAMOUS MOVIE HAD NO FRIENDS. HA, HA, HA.
PLEASE STOP AND THINK BEFORE YOU GO MAKING A JOKE...

YOUR JAPANESE IS SO GOOD.

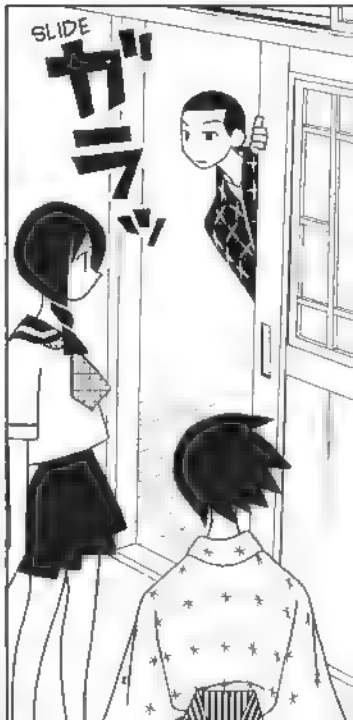
WHAT'S THAT?
THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN TOLD A MILLION TIMES.

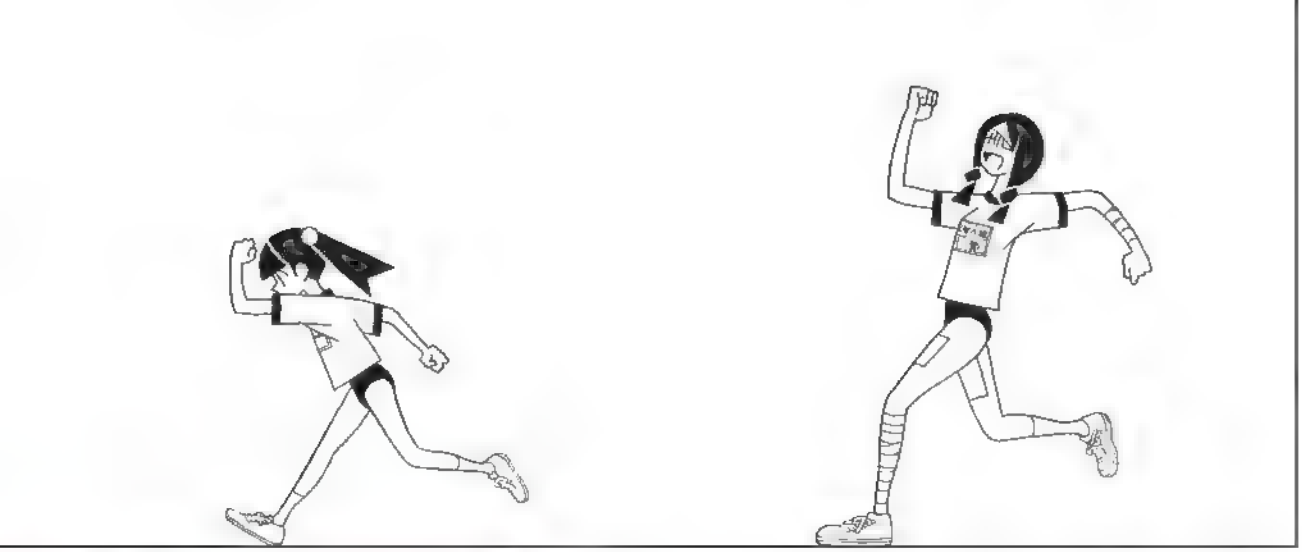
THERE'S ONE QUESTION THAT I'M SICK TO DEATH OF HEARING.

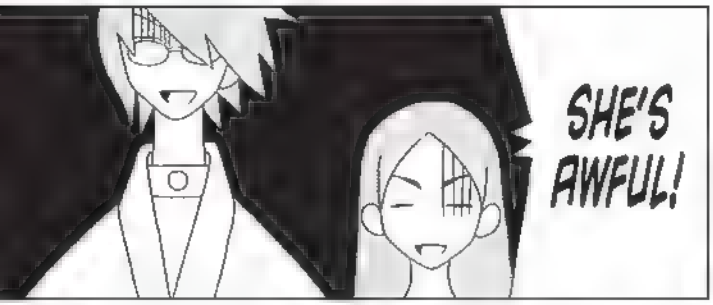
YEAH, THAT'S PRETTY SILLY.
I'M JAPANESE. OF COURSE MY JAPANESE IS GOOD.

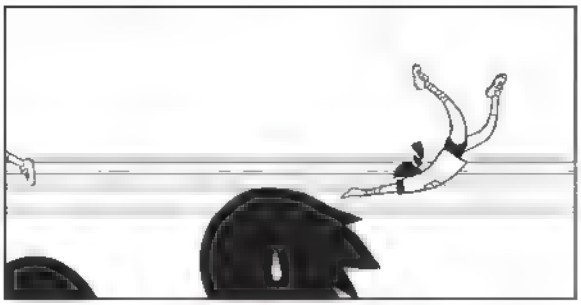
BUT I'M NOT.
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, YOU DO LOOK LIKE YOU'D BE GOOD AT SPORTS.

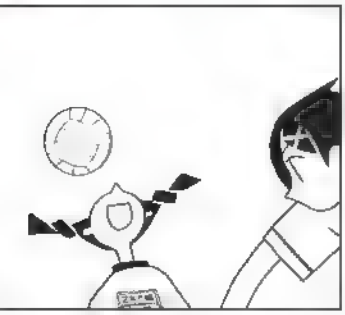
I BET YOU'RE REALLY INTO SPORTS, AREN'T YOU?


SLIDE
ガラッ




SHE'S AWFUL!



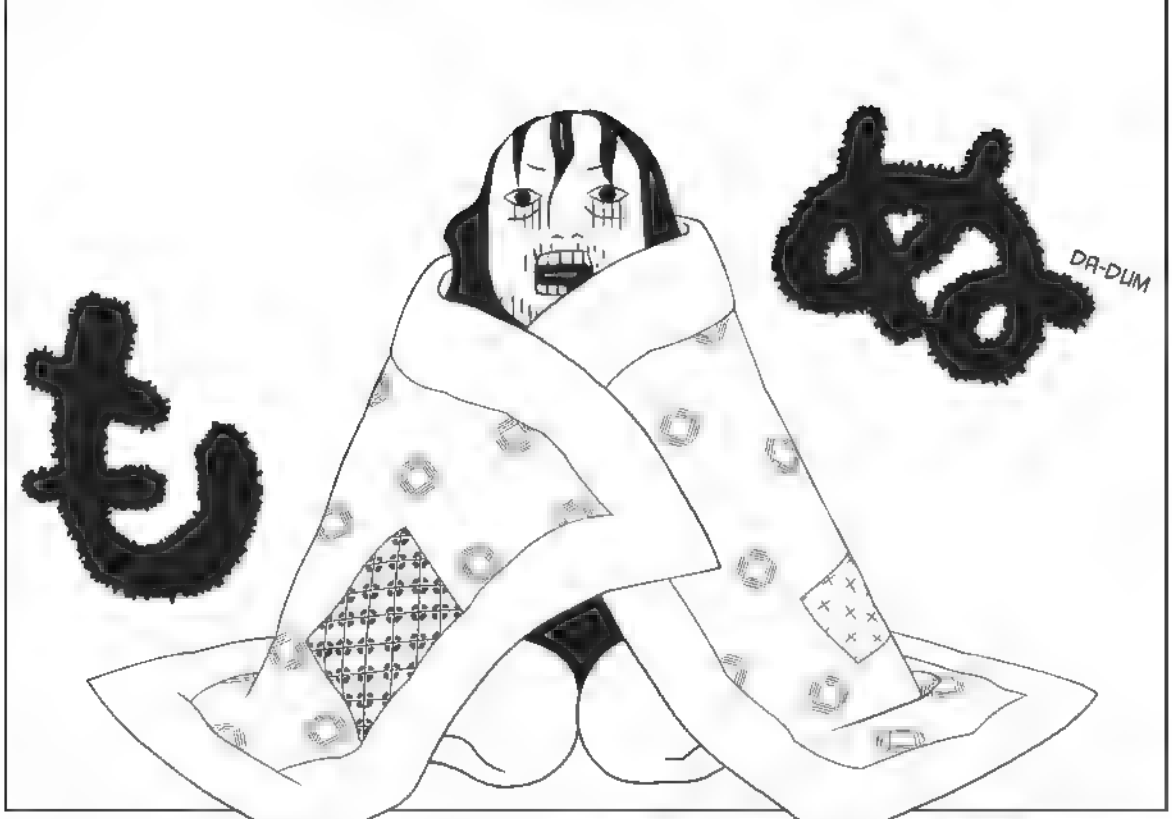


I SUCK AT SPORTS.
THAT'S WHAT I KEEP TRYING TO TELL EVERY-ONE.

NO! I'M AN ONLY CHILD.
SEE?
カラッ
SLIDE
I BET YOU HAVE AN OLDER BROTHER, DON'T YOU?

PEOPLE ALWAYS TELL ME "I BET YOU HAVE AN OLDER BROTHER."
KOMORI

IF SOMETHING'S BEEN SAID A MILLION TIMES, THEN YOU'D FIGURE IT MUST BE TRUE.
BUT...

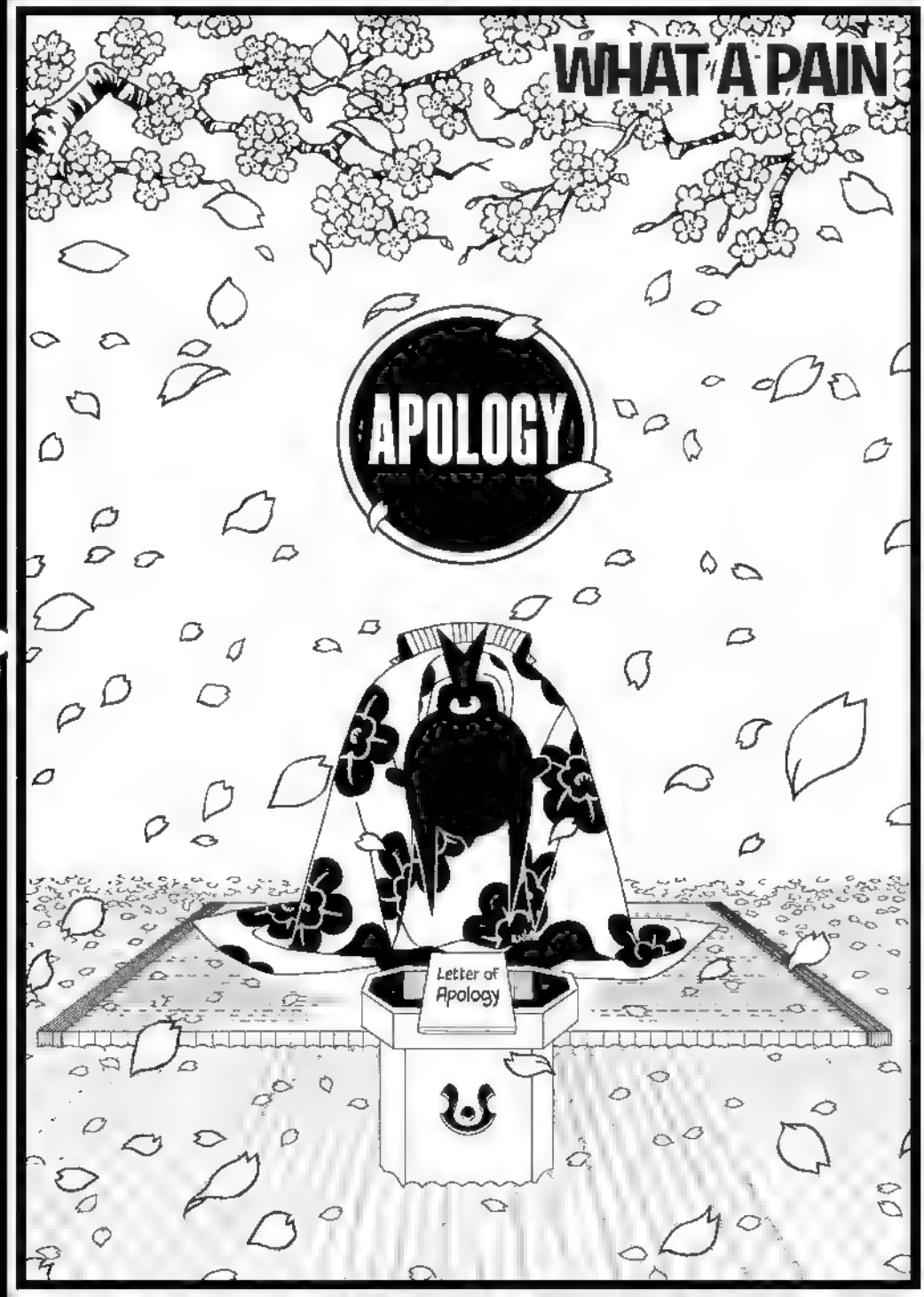

DA-DUM

I DON'T HAVE A BROTHER!
KYAA.
HELLO, LITTLE SISTER.
ずもっ
SHUFFLE
I FOUND YOU A BROTHER, KOMORI-CHAN.

STAY AWAY FROM ME!
SHUFFLE SHUFFLE もずもももも
WHO IS THIS WEIRDO?
IF IT'S BEEN SAID A MILLION TIMES, THEN IT'S GOTTA BE TRUE.

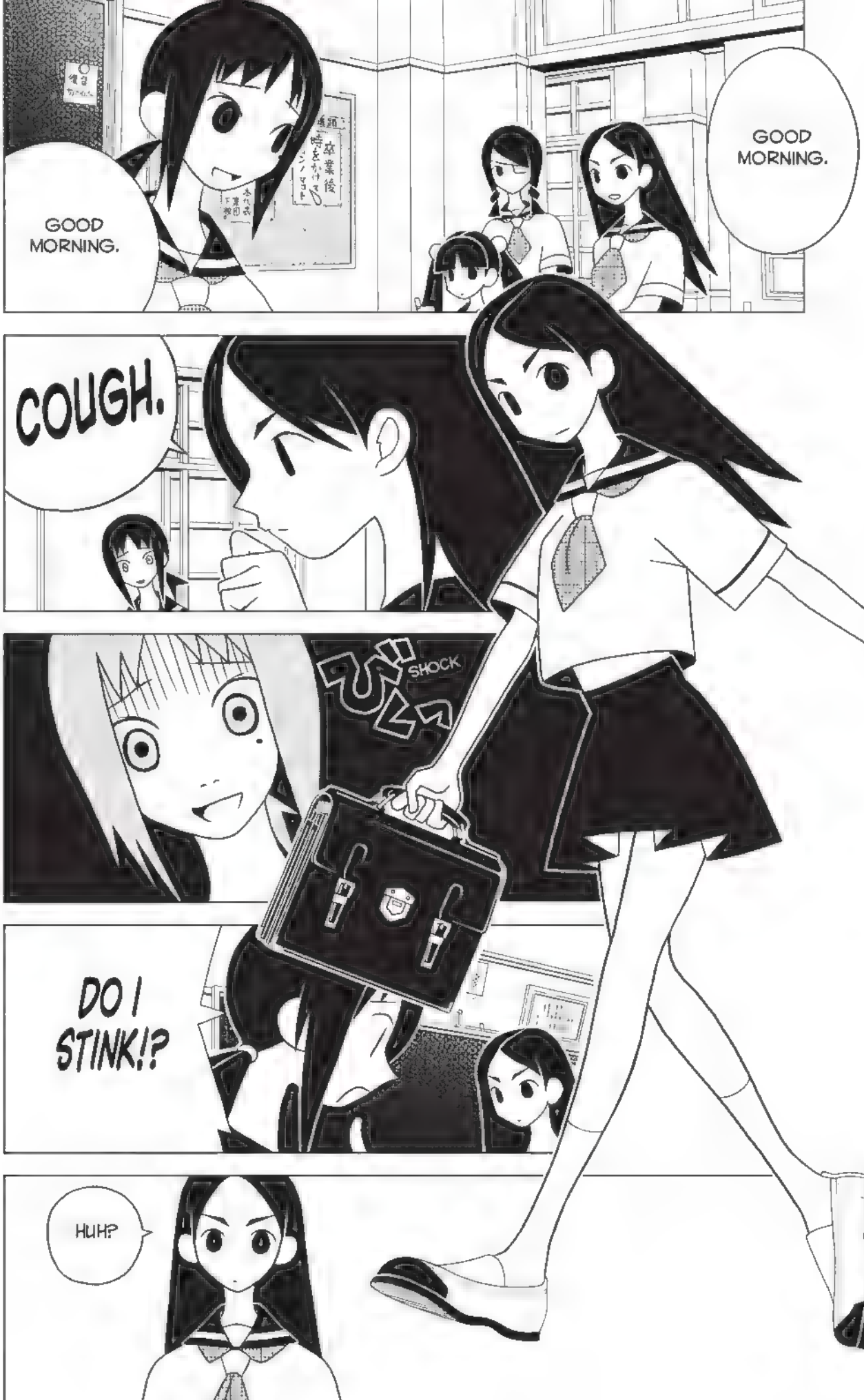
REALLY?
HEY, I BET THAT WHEN NOZOMU WAS A LITTLE BOY, EVERYONE WHO SAW HIM WAS LIKE "YOU'RE A GIRL, RIGHT?"

REALLY?
I BET WHEN YOU WERE A LITTLE BOY, EVERYBODY ASKED YOU THAT TOO. RIGHT, MIKOTO?



CHAPTER 55

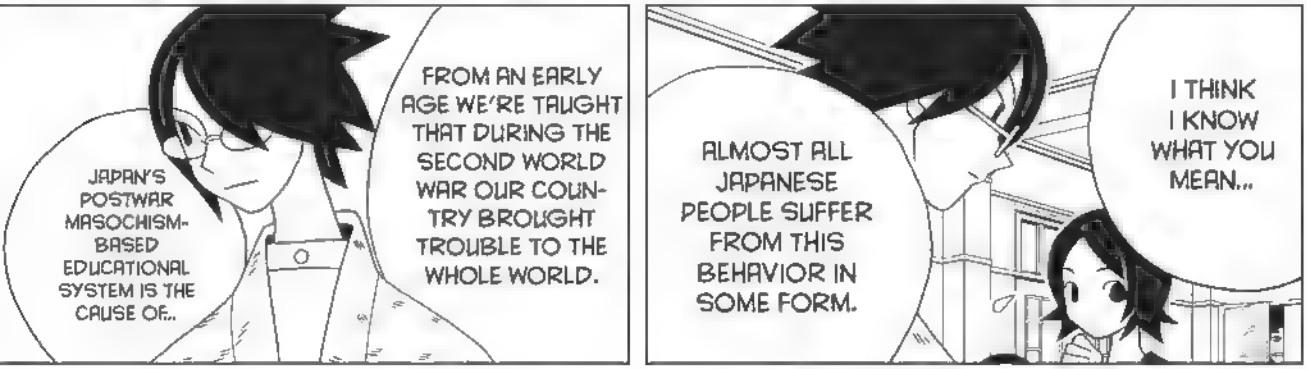
GOKOKUJI STATION
無車掌バス
TOKYO CITY BUS Golden Shopping Center
銀座商店街
昇太 商店
55-94
SHUDDER びくっ
SHUDDER びくっ
VROON ブシュー
EXIT
AM I BEING A TOTAL PAIN TO EVERYONE AROUND ME?


GOOD MORNING.
GOOD MORNING.
COUGH.
びくっ
SHOCK
DO I STINK!?
HUH?

I DON'T WANNA BE A PAIN OR ANYTHING.
I'LL KEEP MY DISTANCE...
BUT YOU JUST COUGHED...!
NO, NOT AT ALL.
I'M SORRY! I'M SO SORRY!
BUT YOU REALLY DON'T STINK AT ALL.
SHOCK
CLANK
...IN YOUR WAY!?
IS MY HEAD...
FWUP
I'LL JUST PUT MY HEAD DOWN SO IT WON'T BE IN YOUR WAY.
I'M SORRY FOR BEING SUCH A PAIN.
NO...NOT REALLY.

...AND BLOCKING YOU?
IS MY DESK STICKING OUT TOO FAR...
DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMING DISORDER!!
TH-THIS IS WHAT I CALL...
WHAT'S THAT?
DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMING DISORDER?
DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMING IS A TERRIBLE PSYCHO-LOGICAL DISORDER.
I'VE NEVER HEARD OF IT.

...THEY DON'T WANT TO ANNOY THE PERSON WAITING IN LINE BEHIND THEM.
すぱっ
SWIP
¥326
THEY'RE AFRAID TO USE SMALL CHANGE AT THE STORE BECAUSE...
...BECAUSE THEY'RE WORRIED THAT THEY'LL WAKE THE NEIGHBORS WHEN THEY FLUSH THE TOILET.
I'm sorry, neighbors.
THEY NEVER GO TO THE BATHROOM AFTER MIDNIGHT...
...BECAUSE THEY'RE SO WORRIED THEY'LL BLOCK THE VIEW OF THE PERSON BEHIND THEM.
SELF-BLAMERS SINK DOWN INTO THEIR SEATS WHEN THEY GO TO THE MOVIES...


JAPAN'S POSTWAR MASOCHISM-BASED EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IS THE CAUSE OF...
FROM AN EARLY AGE WE'RE TAUGHT THAT DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR OUR COUNTRY BROUGHT TROUBLE TO THE WHOLE WORLD.
ALMOST ALL JAPANESE PEOPLE SUFFER FROM THIS BEHAVIOR IN SOME FORM.
I THINK I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN...

おど SHUDDER
SHUDDER おど
SELF-BLAMERS ARE ALWAYS WORRIED THAT THEY'RE MAKING TROUBLE FOR THOSE AROUND THEM.
...DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMING DISORDER.

...AND I'D RUIN THINGS FOR EVERYONE.
IF I BECAME A MAIN CHARACTER, THE READERS WOULD LOSE INTEREST...

THAT'S NOT TRUE. IT'S MY FAULT.

I TRIED TO STAY OUT OF ALL THE PANELS IN THIS MANGA BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANNA BE A PAIN OR ANYTHING.
I NEVER EVEN NOTICED THAT SHE WAS IN OUR CLASS.

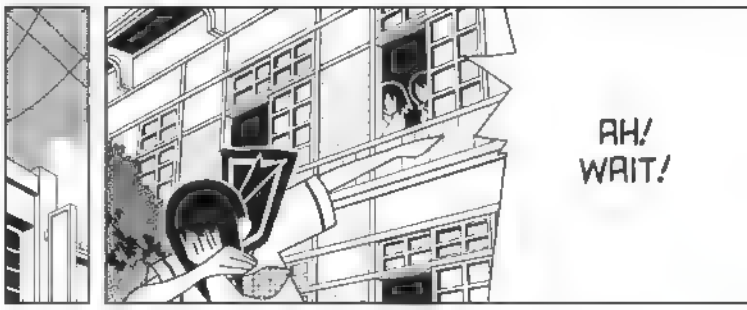
IT'S ALL MY FAULT!
NAMI-CHAN HAS DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMING DISORDER TOO?

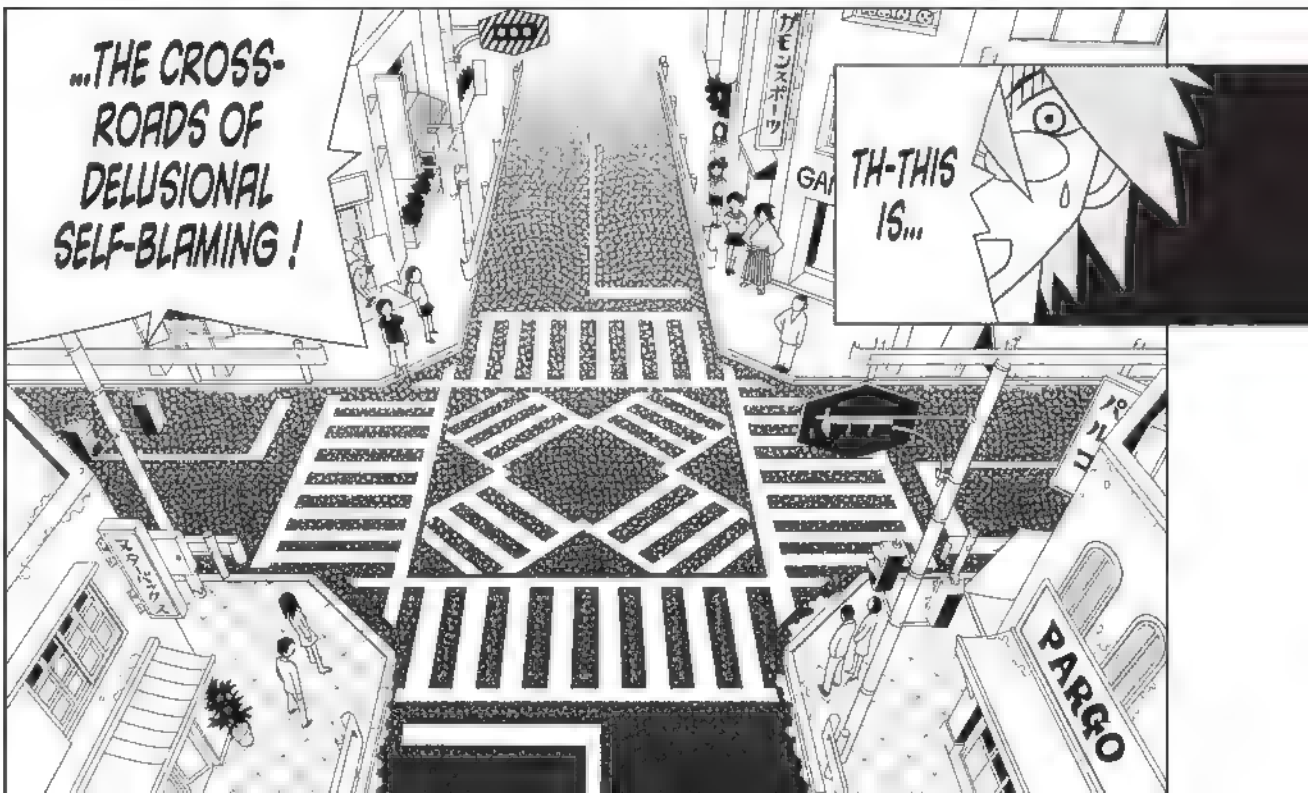
HUH?
THE REASON THAT THIS MANGA IS SO UNPOPULAR IS THAT I'M THE MAIN CHARACTER.

だっ FWOOSH
MY BEING HERE IS CAUSING TROUBLE FOR EVERY-ONE.

...PAR-TICULARLY AMONG JAPANESE PEOPLE.
DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMING IS HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS...

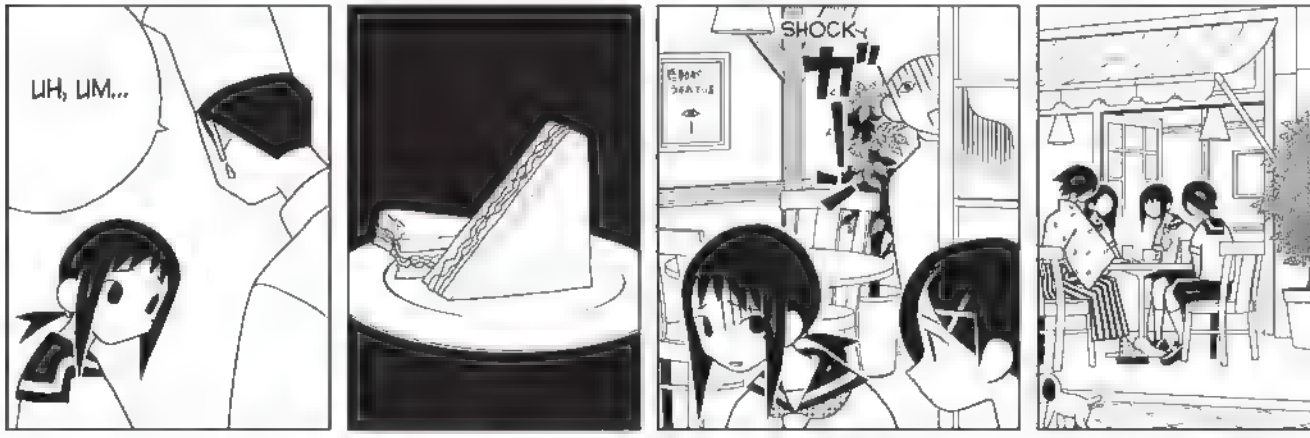
OVER THERE.
WHERE'D SHE GO?

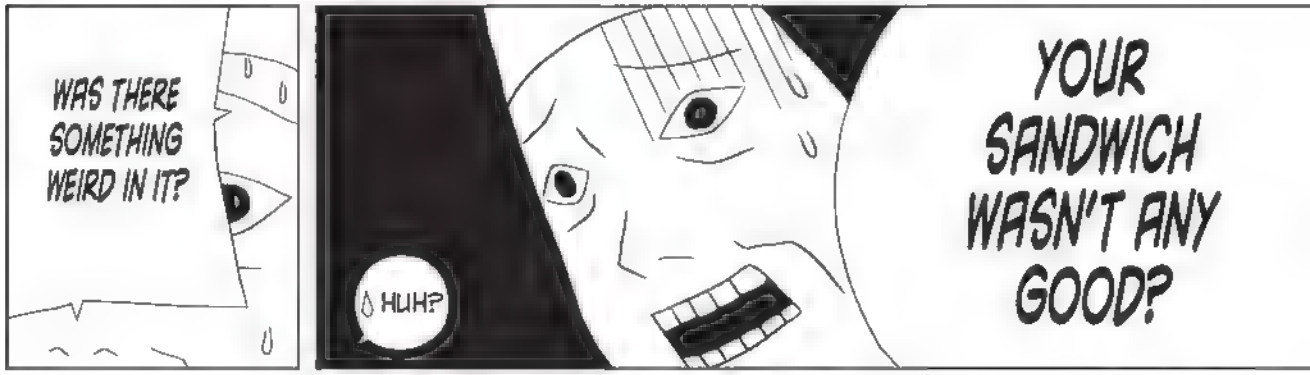

AH! WAIT!

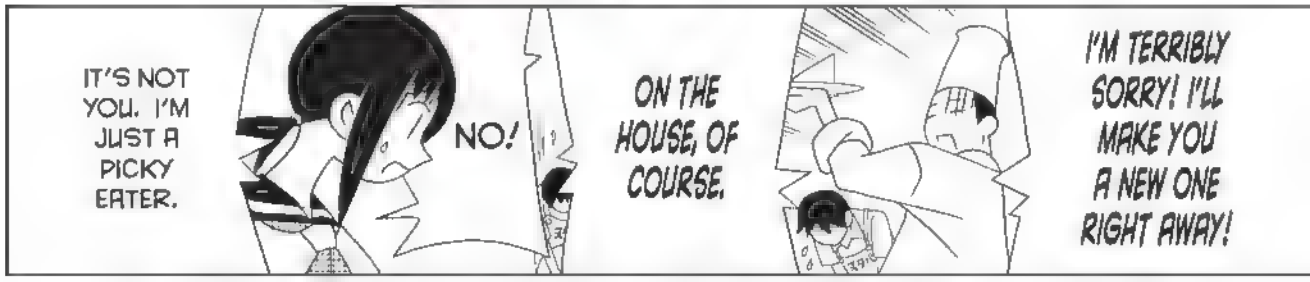

...THE CROSS-ROADS OF DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMING!
TH-THIS IS...
PARCO

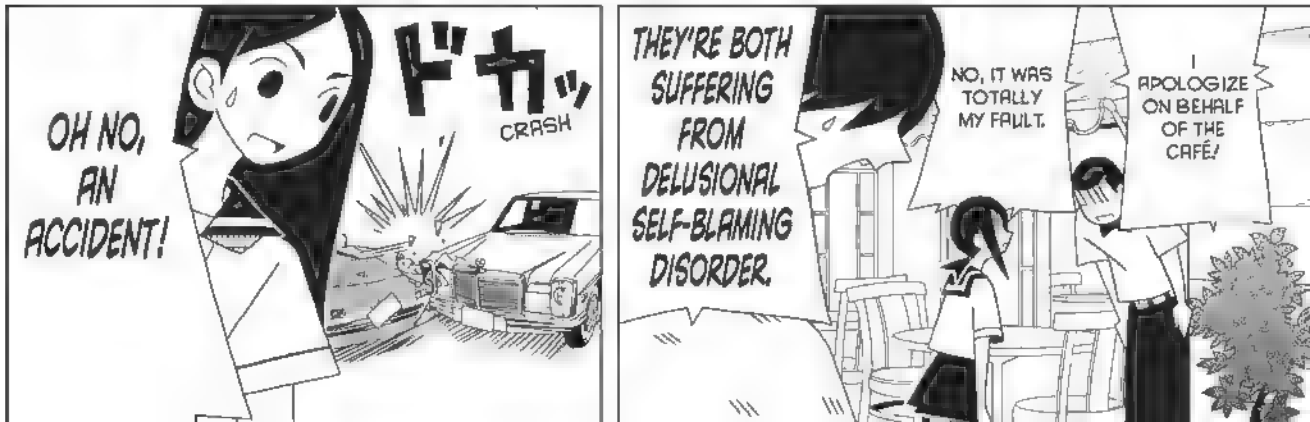
PARC
SHUDDER おど
SHUDDER おど
AH, AI-CHAN. THERE YOU ARE.
WHAT?
VICTIMS OF DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMING DISORDER FROM ALL OVER THE NATION GATHER AT THIS CROSS-ROADS.
?
Dressing Room
I'M SO SORRY!
AH.
WOW, THIS SHIRT IS SO CUTE.
THAT'S A TYPICAL EXAMPLE OF DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMING.
IT WOULDN'T BE FAIR TO THE SHIRT IF I WORE IT.
IF I WEAR THIS SHIRT, I'LL RUIN THE BRAND'S REPUTATION.
I MUST'VE DONE SOME-THING THAT MADE YOU FEEL BAD!
BOW ペコ ペコ BOW
I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD APOLOGIZE!
ガーン SHOCK
ペコ BOW ペコ BOW
COFFEE
NAR★BUCKS
COFFEE
WHY DON'T WE GO OVER THERE AND TAKE A LITTLE COFFEE BREAK.
ガーン SHOCK
NO, IT WAS ALL MY FAULT.
IS THE CLERK A SELF-BLAMER TOO?
ペコ BOW ペコ BOW
LIKE I SAID, THIS IS THE CROSS-ROADS OF DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAM-ING.
NO, IT WAS ME!
SALE

YET ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF TYPICAL SELF-BLAMING BEHAVIOR...
I DON'T WANNA RUIN EVERYONE ELSE'S NICE TIME.
I CAN'T GO INTO A FANCY CAFÉ LIKE THAT! I'D CAUSE TROUBLE FOR ALL THE OTHER CUSTOMERS.


UH, UM...
SHOCK
ガーン

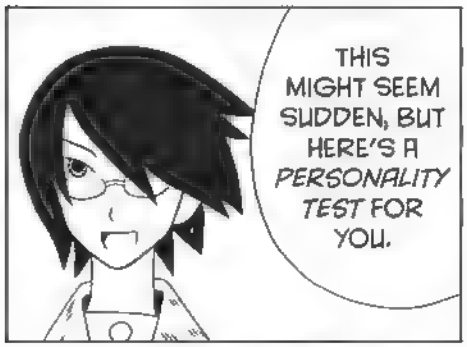

WAS THERE SOMETHING WEIRD IN IT?
HUH?
YOUR SANDWICH WASN'T ANY GOOD?

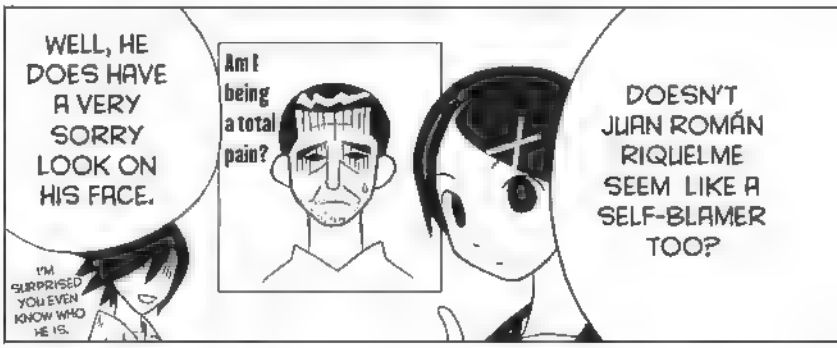

IT'S NOT YOU. I'M JUST A PICKY EATER.
NO!
ON THE HOUSE, OF COURSE.
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY! I'LL MAKE YOU A NEW ONE RIGHT AWAY!


OH NO, AN ACCIDENT!
ドカッ
CRASH
THEY'RE BOTH SUFFERING FROM DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMING DISORDER.
NO, IT WAS TOTALLY MY FAULT.
I APOLOGIZE ON BEHALF OF THE CAFÉ!

YES, IN A WAY...
UH-OH, THIS COULD GET UGLY.
ばん POP
ばん POP
NO, IT WAS MY FAULT.
IT WAS MY FAULT.
I'M THE ONE WHO SOLD YOU A CAR THAT CAN'T STOP FAST ENOUGH.
CAR DEALER
THAT MEANS IT WAS MY FAULT!
IT WAS MY FAULT. I DIDN'T HIT THE BRAKES FAST ENOUGH.
WOW, THIS REALLY IS THE CROSSROADS OF DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMERS.
CAR CRITIC
NO, IT WAS MY FAULT FOR GIVING IT A GOOD REVIEW IN THAT MAGAZINE.
CARMAKER
NO, IT WAS MY FAULT FOR MAKING THE CAR IN THE FIRST PLACE.
I MEAN, DENMARK DIDN'T EVEN MAKE IT INTO THE COMPETITION!
ARE THERE TOO MANY ASIAN TEAMS COMPETING FOR THE CUP? ARE WE JUST MAKING TROUBLE FOR THE REST OF THE WORLD?
DO YOU THINK THE JAPANESE SOCCER TEAM IS WEIGHING DOWN THE WORLD CUP GAMES?
SPORTS

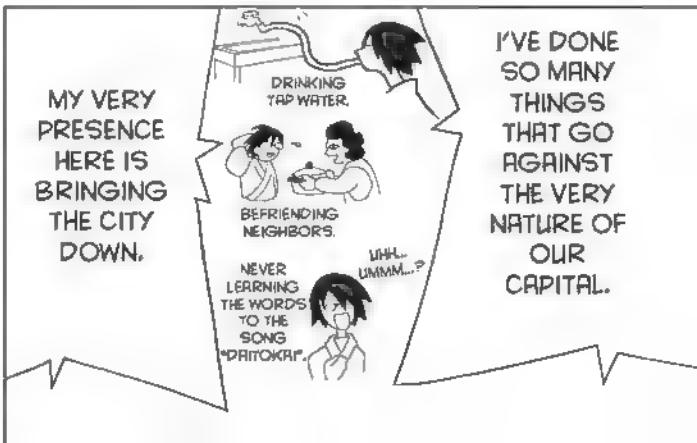
AND THE COACH WHO NEVER BENCHES A PLAYER BECAUSE HE DOESN'T WANT TO STRAY FROM THE ORIGINAL PLAN.
PANT PANT
THE PLAYER WHO INSISTS ON BEING BENCHED BECAUSE HE'S WORRIED HE'LL BRING THE TEAM DOWN.
THE FORWARD WHO, INSTEAD OF TAKING A CLEAN SHOT, PASSES THE BALL BECAUSE HE'S SO WORRIED ABOUT BEING A BALL HOG.
THE FULLBACK WHO KICKS TOO SOFTLY BECAUSE HE'S WORRIED HE MIGHT HURT HIS OPPONENT.
PWACK
ACTUALLY, I'D SAY THAT THE ENTIRE JAPANESE WORLD CUP TEAM SUFFERS FROM DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMING DISORDER.

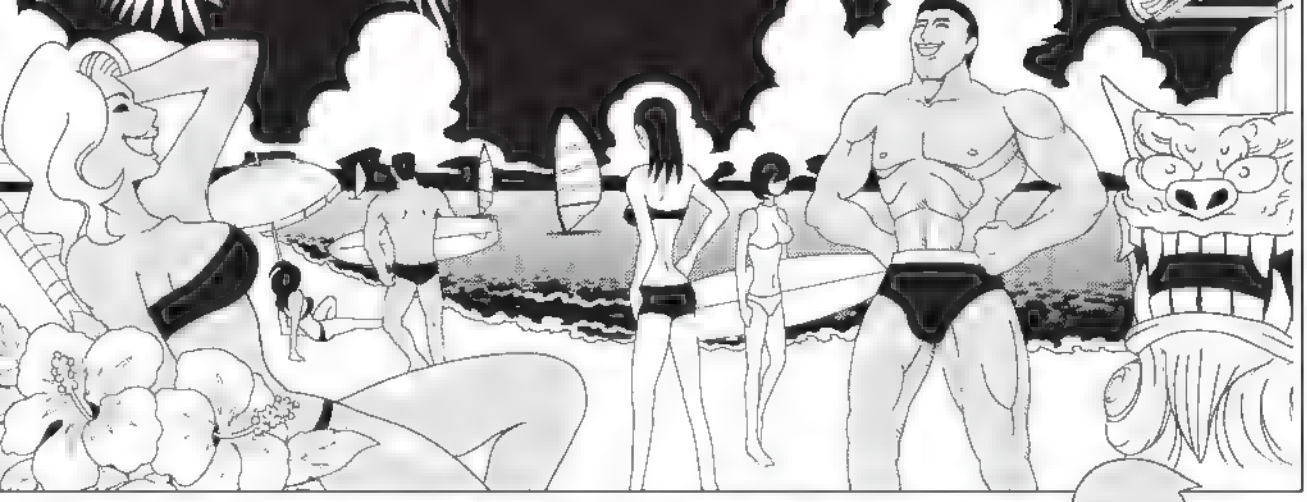



WELL, HE DOES HAVE A VERY SORRY LOOK ON HIS FACE.
I'M SURPRISED YOU EVEN KNOW WHO HE IS.
Am I being a total pain?
DOESN'T JUAN ROMÁN RIQUELME SEEM LIKE A SELF-BLAMER TOO?

- ☐ WHEN YOU'RE GETTING YOUR HAIR CUT, YOU NEVER TELL THE HAIRDRESSER YOU'VE GOT AN ITCH.
- ☐ WHEN YOU BUY A BUNCH OF BOOKS AT THE BOOKSTORE, YOU NEVER ASK FOR MORE THAN TWO BOOK COVERS.
- ☐ YOU NEVER HAIL A CAB JUST TO GO A FEW BLOCKS BECAUSE YOU WORRY IT WOULDN'T BE WORTH IT FOR THE DRIVER.
- ☐ YOU NEVER LEAVE HOME WHEN YOU'RE EXPECTING A PACKAGE.
- ☐ ALTHOUGH YOU'RE A MEMBER OF AAA, YOU NEVER CALL FOR A TOW TRUCK EVEN IF YOUR CAR BREAKS DOWN.
- ☐ AUTOMATIC TICKET GATES MAKE YOU FEEL A LITTLE GUILTY.
- ☐ YOU FEEL GUILTY WHEN YOU WIN A CONVENIENCE STORE RAFFLE.
- ☐ YOU ASK YOUR MOM TO HEM ALL YOUR JEANS.
- ☐ YOU FEEL PRESSURE WHEN YOU'RE ASSIGNED "WALL CIRCLE" STATUS AT THE COMIC MARKET CONVENTION.
- ☐ YOU FEEL TOO EMBARRASSED TO GET ON THE TOKYUU TOUYOKO LINE WITH A BAG THAT SAYS ANIME*TO.

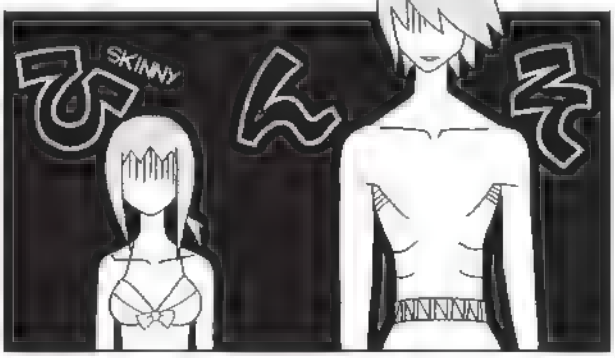
IF YOU CHECK THREE OR MORE BOXES THEN YOU SUFFER FROM DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMING DISORDER.


MY VERY PRESENCE HERE IS BRINGING THE CITY DOWN.
DRINKING TAP WATER.
BEFRIENDING NEIGHBORS.
NEVER LEARNING THE WORDS TO THE SONG "DAITOKAI".
UHH... UMMM...?
I'VE DONE SO MANY THINGS THAT GO AGAINST THE VERY NATURE OF OUR CAPITAL.



...CAUSING TROUBLE FOR THE ISLAND OF OKINAWA?

ARE WE...



I'M SORRY I'M NOT AS HOT AS YUU YAMADA!

I'M SORRY I'M NOT AS HOT AS MOKOMICHI HAYAMI!

...WE'RE JUST GONNA END UP CAUSING TROUBLE FOR EVERY-ONE.

BUT WAIT, NO MATTER WHERE WE GO IN THIS WIDE WORLD...

WE'VE GOTTA GO SOMEWHERE ELSE... RIGHT AWAY.

IF WE STAY HERE ANY LONGER, WE'RE GONNA RUIN OKINAWA FOR EVERY-ONE.

...JUST BY BEING ALIVE I'M CAUSING SO MUCH TROUBLE FOR OUR SOCIETY.

I MEAN...

DING

NO, IT WAS MY FAULT!
NO, IT WAS MY FAULT!
IT'S MY FAULT THAT SENSEI DIED!

IT WAS MY OWN FAULT THAT I DIED!
THAT'S ENOUGH!
FWUP

IT WAS MY FAULT!
IT WAS MY FAULT!
IRRITATED!

THAT STATEMENT'S DEFINITELY GONNA RUFFLE SOME FEATHERS, MARIA-CHAN.
THERE ARE SO MANY COUNTRIES OUT THERE THAT LOVE PLAYING THE VICTIM. I THINK WE'RE LUCKY TO LIVE IN A DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMING COUNTRY LIKE JAPAN.

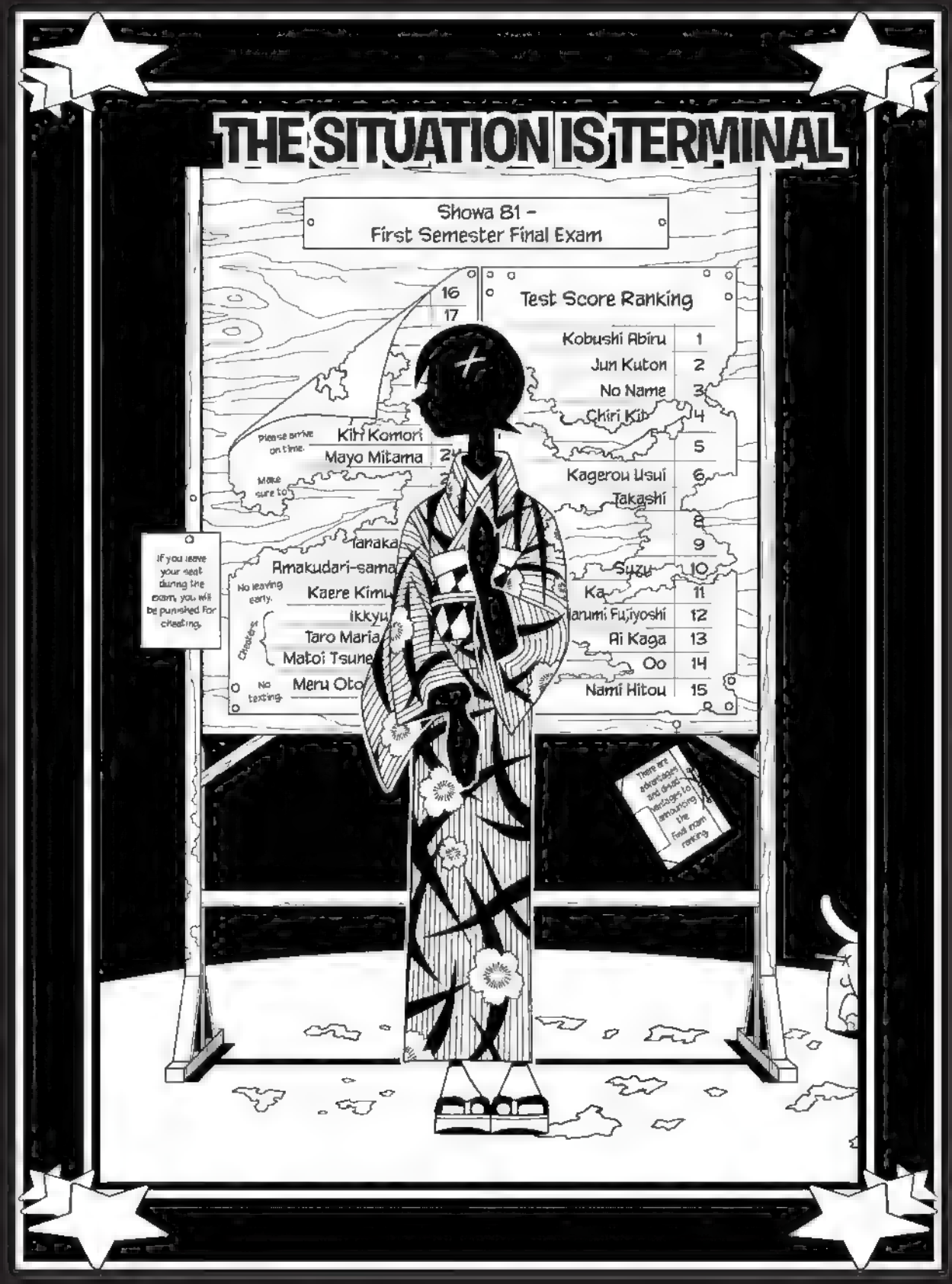
YOU'RE NOT DEAD.
IT WAS MY FAULT!
IT WAS MY FAULT!

ATTENDANCE LIST
CLASS 2-HE

ATTENDANCE NO. 18

AI KAGA

DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMER


THE SITUATION IS TERMINAL
Showa 81 -
First Semester Final Exam
Test Score Ranking
Kobushi Abiru 1
Jun Kuton 2
No Name 3
Chiri Kiri 4
5
Kagerou Usui 6
Takashi
8
9
Suzu 10
Ka 11
Iarumi Fujiyoshi 12
Ai Kaga 13
Oo 14
Nami Hitou 15
16
17
Please arrive on time.
Kiri Komori
Mayo Mitama 24
Make sure to
Tanaka
Amakudari-sama
No leaving early.
Kaere Kimu
Ikkyu
Cheaters
Taro Maria
Matoi Tsune
No texting.
Meru Oto
If you leave your seat during the exam, you will be punished for cheating.
There are advantages and disadvantages to announcing the final exam ranking

CHAPTER 56

I'M SORRY TO INTERRUPT, BUT...
Final Exam
Session 1, Classical Japanese, 9:00 – 9:50
Session 2, English, 10:00 – 10:50
Session 3, World History, 11:00 – 11:50
Session 4, Ethics (Gary), 12:00 – 12:50
I JUST DON'T THINK IT'S APPROPRIATE...
...FOR YOU ALL TO BE TAKING A *FINAL* EXAM RIGHT NOW.

INSTEAD, YOU'LL BE TAKING A "TERMINAL EXAM."
BUT DOESN'T TERMINAL MEAN FINAL ANYWAY?
TERMINAL EXAM?
...SOMETHING CAN ONLY "TERMINATE" ONE SINGLE TIME.
YOU HAVE "FINALS" AT THE END OF EACH SEMESTER, BUT...
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT A HEALTH EXAM?
A "TERMINAL EXAM" CLEARLY DETERMINES WHERE AND WHEN SOMETHING TERMINATES.

...EVENTUALLY REACHES A CONDITION THAT IS CLINICALLY DEFINED AS TERMINAL.

WELL, I'M NOT JUST TALKING ABOUT OUR BODIES. EVERYTHING...

EVEN A SPORTS TEAM CAN BE TERMINAL!

AREN'T YOU GUYS ON THE BASEBALL TEAM?

A TUBE OF TRI-COLORED TOOTHPASTE CAN BE TERMINAL.

WHAT COLOR IS THIS SUPPOSED TO BE?

LIKE A TERMINAL TV.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SCREEN?

FUTA

THE 6 AND THE 9 BUTTONS DON'T WORK ANYMORE.

ずいっ SWIP

- WHEN IT WON'T CLOSE ANYMORE.
- WHEN IT WON'T CHARGE ALL THE WAY.
- WHEN YOU REALIZE IT HAS A PHOTO OF YOUR OLD BOYFRIEND STUCK TO IT.

Up 3 SWING

Up 3 SWING

LOVE

THERE ARE PLENTY OF SIGNS THAT POINT TO A CELL PHONE THAT IS CLINICALLY TERMINAL.

SOUNDS LIKE YOUR PHONE MIGHT BE TERMINAL.

NOD

I'M SORRY. IT'S TIME FOR US TO PART WAYS BEFORE THIS RELATIONSHIP DESTROYS US BOTH. I'M AFRAID THAT I MIGHT CHANGE MY MIND IF I SEE YOU, SO FORGIVE ME FOR DOING THIS BY TEXT. PLEASE DON'T SAY HELLO TO ME EVEN IF YOU HAPPEN TO SEE ME AROUND.

AND FINALLY THEY DUMP YOU BY WAY OF A SELF-COMPLETING DEAR JOHN TEXT.

...BLOCKS YOUR NUMBER, AND THEN CHANGES THEIR OWN.

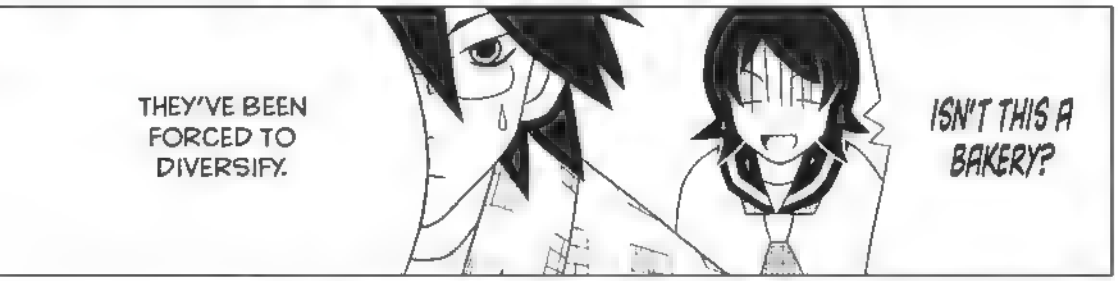
ERROR

BEEP BEEP

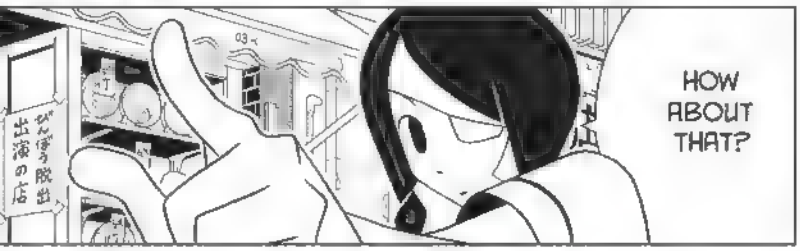
AND THE PERSON YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH STOPS SENDING YOU TEXT MESSAGES...

ONE BLOCKED CALL IS A HUNDRED TIMES SCARIER...
...THAN ONE MISSED CALL!
IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE NOT JUST TALKING ABOUT THE PHONE ANY-MORE.
ANYWAY, THERE ARE A MULTITUDE OF WAYS THAT CAN CAUSE SOMETHING TO BECOME "TERMINAL."
OKAY, THE TERMINAL EXAM...
...WILL BEGIN WITH "WATCHING" INSTEAD OF "LISTENING".
GO INTO TOWN AND SEARCH FOR EXAMPLES OF THINGS THAT HAVE REACHED A TERMINAL STATE.
I'VE ALREADY FOUND ONE.
A SIGN THAT THIS SHOP IS TERMINAL.
BAKERY
Fresh Baked Bread

Push
Gundam plastic models now in stock.


THEY'VE BEEN FORCED TO DIVERSIFY.
ISN'T THIS A BAKERY?

OR A HOME REMODELING COMPANY THAT STARTS FOCUSING ON FENG SHUI GOODS!
REMODEL
Feng Shui Goods
OR A DRY CLEANER THAT SELLS YUGIOH CARDS!
LIKE AN ELECTRIC APPLIANCE STORE THAT STARTS SELLING WEIRD HEALTH FOODS!
ELECTRIC
HEALTH FOODS
WHEAT GRASS JUICE
¥30,000
DIGITAL TV
THEY KEEP ADDING MORE AND MORE PRODUCTS THAT HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THEIR SPECIALTY.


HOW ABOUT THAT?

CRAM SCHOOL
RYUOH CRAM SCHOOL
ISN'T THAT FULL-TIME CRAM-SCHOOL STUDENT IN A TERMINAL CONDITION?

...THAT'S A TELLTALE SIGN THAT THE SITUATION IS TERMINAL.
AND ANYTIME A SHOP STARTS PUTTING THEIR OWN CHILDREN'S PERSONAL BELONGINGS OUT ON THE SHELVES...
100 yen each
100 yen each

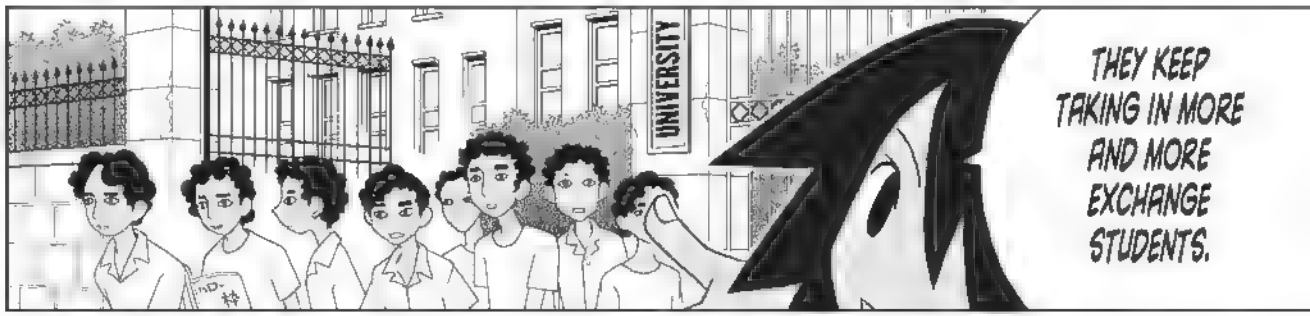
XX-SAN, WHAT WAS THE EXAM YOU TOOK TWO YEARS AGO LIKE?
HELLO, XX-SAN.
HIS CLASSMATES TREAT HIM LIKE AN ELDER.
CRAM SCHOOL

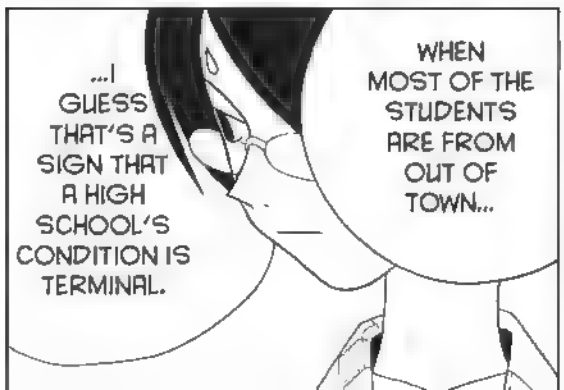
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THAT?
I'M THINKING ABOUT APPLYING TO A FOREIGN UNIVERSITY NEXT YEAR.

BUT IT GETS EVEN WORSE...
TH-THAT'S SAD...

THAT UNIVERSITY CAN'T ATTRACT ENOUGH STUDENTS ANYMORE. ITS CONDITION IS DEFINITELY TERMINAL.
LOOK WHAT I FOUND.

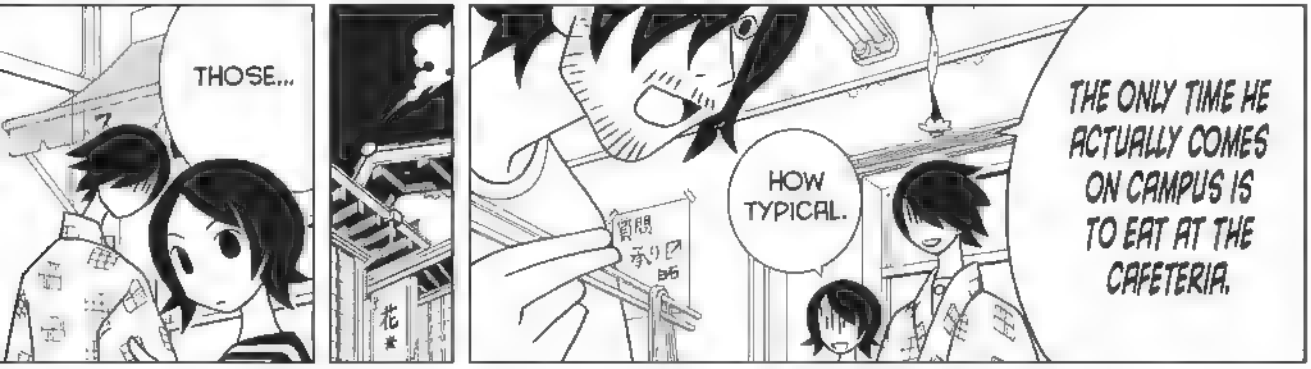
WOW, THAT'S AWESOME, SENPAI.
THAT'S DEFINITELY A SIGN THAT THE SITUATION IS TERMINAL.

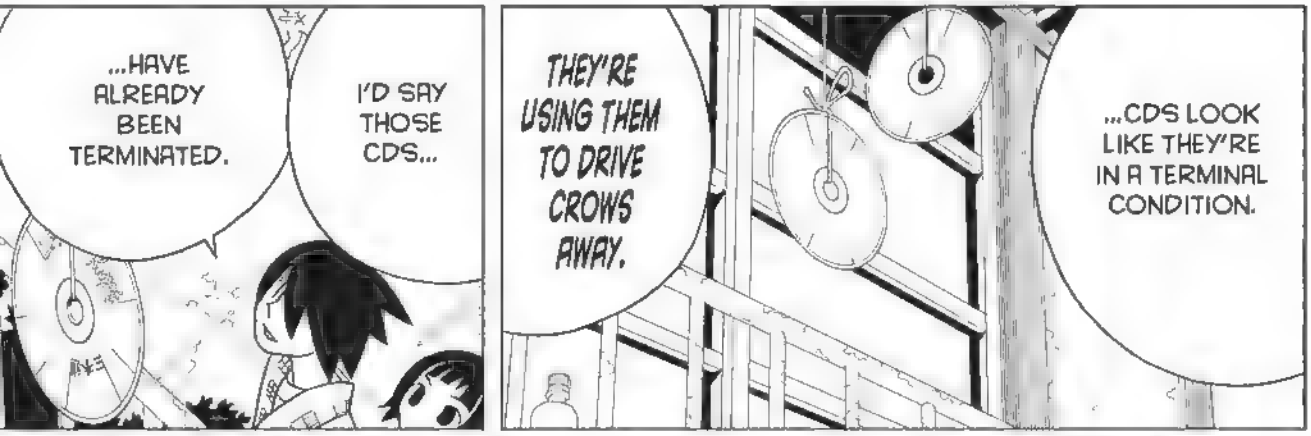

UNIVERSITY
THEY KEEP TAKING IN MORE AND MORE EXCHANGE STUDENTS.


...I GUESS THAT'S A SIGN THAT A HIGH SCHOOL'S CONDITION IS TERMINAL.
WHEN MOST OF THE STUDENTS ARE FROM OUT OF TOWN...

THAT'S A CONTRO-VERSIAL COMMENT, MARIA-CHAN.
IT'S NOTHING BUT A LEGAL WAY OF PROMOTING ILLEGAL EMPLOYMENT!

学生 カツ丼
学生 牛丼
学生 ハンバ
HOT S
Cafeteria
UNIVERSIT
THAT'S A SIGN OF A COLLEGE STUDENT IN TERMINAL CONDITION.


THOSE...
花
HOW TYPICAL.
THE ONLY TIME HE ACTUALLY COMES ON CAMPUS IS TO EAT AT THE CAFETERIA.


...HAVE ALREADY BEEN TERMINATED.
I'D SAY THOSE CDS...
THEY'RE USING THEM TO DRIVE CROWS AWAY.
...CDS LOOK LIKE THEY'RE IN A TERMINAL CONDITION.

Sealed
WEEKLY STAR
I THINK THIS MAGAZINE MIGHT BE TERMINAL.
深い淀み 第1巻 発売中
週刊芸能
週刊 現在

AND I THINK YOUR MANHOOD MIGHT BE TERMINAL.
ぬっ
FWIP
YEAH, THAT'S TRUE...
Extra Sealed Pages!
10 Gorgeous sealed pages
THEY KEEP INCREASING THE NUMBER OF SEALED PAGES.

BEAUTIFUL WOMEN
CONFIDENTIAL
SEALED PAGES
YOU DON'T EVEN BOTHER OPENING THOSE SEALED PAGES TO SEE THE NAUGHTY PICS INSIDE.

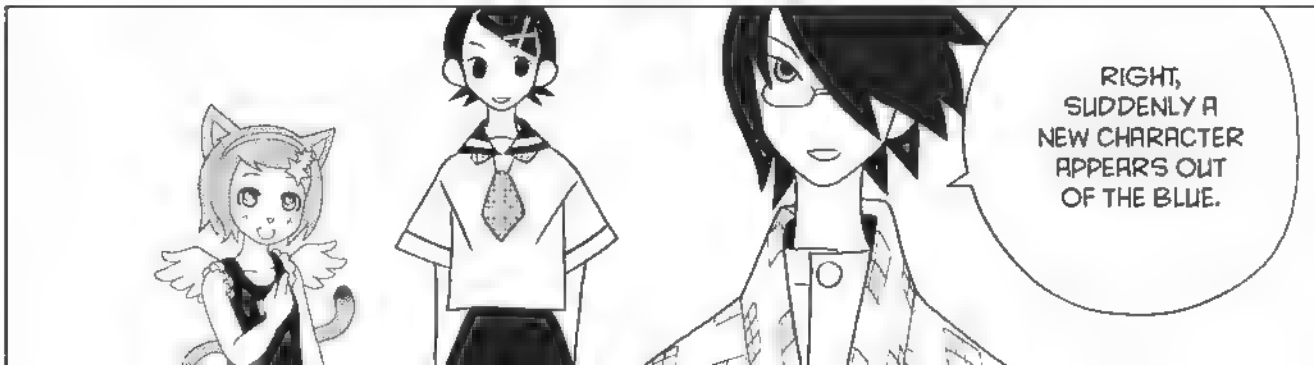
I STILL HAVE SOME SEMBLANCE OF A SEX DRIVE.

DID YOU JUST USE ME AS AN EXAMPLE?
YOUR LAZINESS HAS OVERPOWERED YOUR SEX DRIVE.

• YOU REACT MORE TO HORMONES THAN PHEROMONES.
• YOU DON'T REACT TO THE SCENT OF A WOMAN'S HAIR
• YOU HAVE NO PREFERENCE WHEN IT COMES TO THE QUESTION OF BARE LEGS VS. NYLONS.
HOW DARE YOU SAY THAT MY MANHOOD IS TERMINAL.

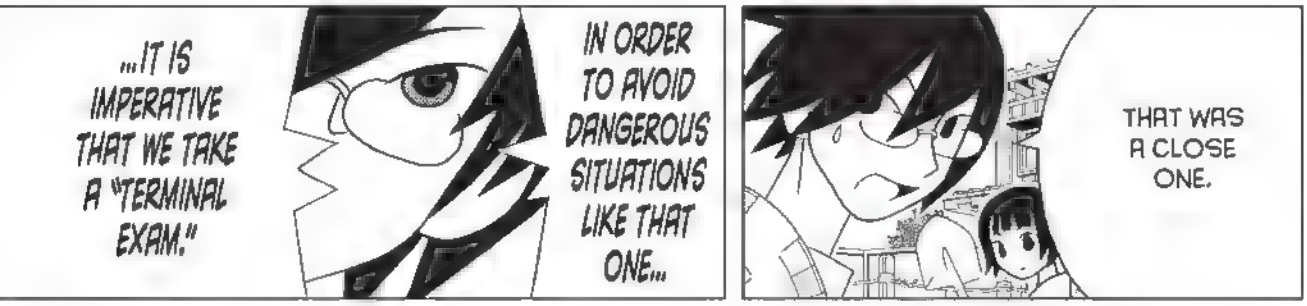
AND COMING UP WITH CRAZY PLOT TWISTS.
SOUTATSUKI EPISODE 30
Who are you?
I am...
THEY KEEP ADDING NEW CHARACTERS!

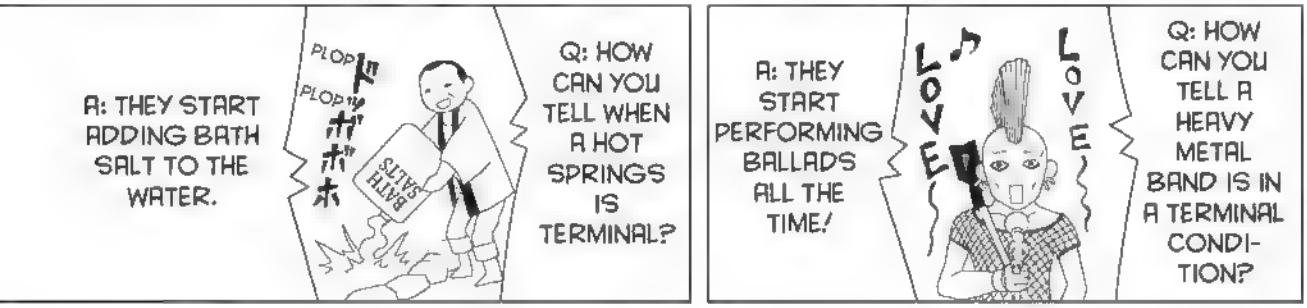
HERE'S A TERMINAL MANGA SERIES.


RIGHT, SUDDENLY A NEW CHARACTER APPEARS OUT OF THE BLUE.

NOZOMU-CHAN, A WARP HOLE LEADING TO THE PLANET OF KORIN WILL OPEN TONIGHT.

HURRY UP AND SEND HER BACK TO HER OWN PLANET!
IT'S A NEW PLOT TWIST.
IT'S A NEW CHARACTER.


...IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE TAKE A "TERMINAL EXAM."
IN ORDER TO AVOID DANGEROUS SITUATIONS LIKE THAT ONE...
THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE.


A: THEY START ADDING BATH SALT TO THE WATER.
PLOP
PLOP
BATH SALTS
Q: HOW CAN YOU TELL WHEN A HOT SPRINGS IS TERMINAL?
A: THEY START PERFORMING BALLADS ALL THE TIME!
LOVE
LOVE
Q: HOW CAN YOU TELL A HEAVY METAL BAND IS IN A TERMINAL CONDI-TION?

A: THEIR PARENTS DIE.
Q: HOW DO YOU KNOW WHEN AN UNEM-PLOYED SLACKER'S CONDITION IS TERMINAL?
A: WHEN EVEN BUBKA MAGAZINE STARTS IGNORING THEM!
HOTEL EMPEROR TIME
Q: HOW CAN YOU TELL WHEN A CELEBRITY IDOL IS TERMINAL?
HOTEL EMPEROR TIME
HMMPH
A: WHEN THEY GET A BONER JUST FROM HAVING WAVES BREAK ON THEM.
SPLOOSH
Q: HOW CAN YOU TELL WHEN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BOYS ARE IN A TERMINAL CONDITION?

Q: WHAT'S A SIGN THAT YOUR FAMILY IS IN A TERMINAL CONDITION?
→ A: YOUR PARENTS TAKE YOU TO DISNEYLAND, STAY IN A FANCY HOTEL, AND LET YOU EAT WHATEVER YOU WANT.

Q: WHAT'S A SIGN THAT A NATION IS IN A TERMINAL CONDITION?
→ A: THE WHOLE COUNTRY IS INVOLVED IN MAKING COUNTERFEIT MONEY.

Q: WHAT'S A SIGN THAT A COMPANY IS IN A TERMINAL CONDITION?
→ A: THE CEO PUBLISHES HIS AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

Q: WHAT'S A SIGN THAT THE YOMIURI GIANTS ARE IN A TERMINAL CONDITION?
→ A: COACH HARA ORDERS NUMBER 4 TO MAKE A SACRIFICE BUNT DURING AN APRIL GAME.

Q: WHAT'S A SIGN THAT THE JAPANESE SOCCER TEAM IS IN A TERMINAL CONDITION?
→ A: NOT ONLY DO THEY START BRAGGING ABOUT THE "MIRACLE IN MIAMI," BUT THEY EVEN BRAG ABOUT THE "MIRACLE IN BERLIN."

Q: WHAT'S A SIGN THAT THE JAPANESE DEFENSE FORCE IS IN A TERMINAL CONDITION?
→ A: CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION GETS LEAKED VIA COMPUTER SOFTWARE.

Q: WHAT'S A SIGN THAT THE RAMEN SHOP IS IN A TERMINAL CONDITION?
→ A: THE OWNER RELEASES A CD.

Q: WHAT'S A SIGN THAT MUSICIAN TE****YA KOMURO IS FALLING APART?
→ A: HE SIGNS A CONTRACT WITH THE YOSHIMOTO COMEDY AGENCY.

Q: WHAT'S A SIGN THAT A MANGA ARTIST IS IN A TERMINAL CONDITION?
→ A: HE APPEARS ON THE QUIZ SHOW *MEISEI KOUJIKU IINKAI*.

Q: WHAT'S A SIGN THAT A MANGA EDITOR IS IN A TERMINAL CONDITION?
→ A: HE BEATS THE GAME *DRAGON QUEST* IN HIS OWN OFFICE.

Q: WHAT'S A SIGN THAT THE ENTIRE EDITING DEPARTMENT IS IN A TERMINAL CONDITION?
→ A: THE CHIEF EDITOR DRIVES AN ALFA ROMEO.

Q: WHAT'S A SIGN THAT *SHONEN MAGAZINE* IS IN A TERMINAL CONDITION?
→ A: WHEN THE MAJORITY OF ITS READERS ARE YOUNG GIRLS.

Q: WHAT'S ANOTHER SIGN THAT *SHONEN MAGAZINE* IS IN A TERMINAL CONDITION?
→ A: WHEN THE MAJORITY OF ITS READERS ARE ADULT MALES.

HERE ARE THE REST OF THE QUESTIONS FOR THE TERMINAL EXAM!

DON'T GIVE UP JUST BECAUSE SOMETHING SEEMS TERMINAL.

NOT EVERY-THING HAS TO COME TO AN END.

YOU KNOW...

...HE CAN CONTINUE TO BE A SLACKER WHILE LIVING OFF HIS INHERITANCE.

IF A SLACKER'S PARENTS PASS AWAY...

...SHE COULD STILL APPEAR IN ONE OF THE MAGAZINE'S LESS COMPETI-TIVE SECTIONS.

An Experiment with a hottie.

IF A CELEBRITY IS IGNORED BY *BUBKA* MAGAZINE...

...MAYBE THE DISTORTED SCREEN WILL FINALLY MAKE **E TOMOSAKA'S FACE LOOK NORMAL.

BZZT

みにょーん

IF YOUR TV IS IN A TERMINAL CONDITION...

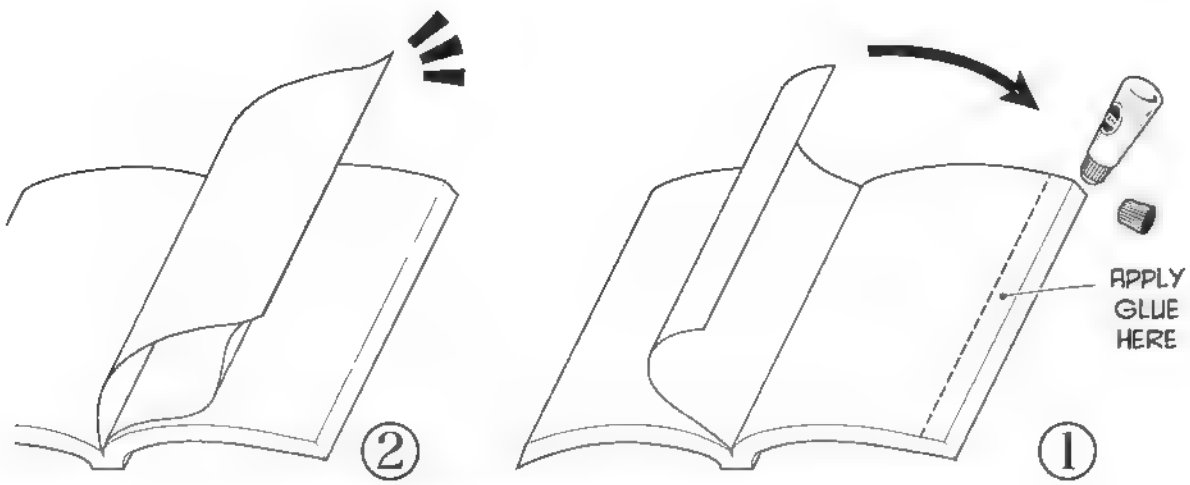
DON'T LET YOUR MANHOOD TERMINATE.
SO SENSEI...
DON'T GIVE UP.
DON'T GIVE UP.
I NEVER EVEN SAID THAT. THAT WAS YOU GUYS!
GULP
The forbidden sealed pages
HERE.
SEALED PAGES!
SEALED PAGES!
SEALED PAGES!
RIP

APPLY GLUE HERE

PUB CARNIVAL IN UENO
☆ REPRESENTING BRAZIL ☆
ZIKO-CHAN ♥
IT'S THE COMPETITION OF YOUR DREAMS!
BOOBIE MAGIC ♡
SANTA RUCHIA IN ROPPONGI
☆ REPRESENTING ITALY ☆
SHIMOONE-CHAN ♥
SHE'S GOT THE SKILLS...
WHOA, I'M ABOUT TO GO OFF SIDES!
WINNER!
WORLD CUP OF PANTY SHOTS 2010 COMING SOON!
DON'T MISS OUT!
THE ACCUSED
APPLY GLUE HERE

Tournament F, Japan vs. Brazil
IT'S JUST SO APPALLINGLY STUPID.
STILL NOT INTERESTED, HUH?
ベベベー
SPLOOSH
TALK ABOUT A SITUATION THAT'S TERMINAL.
DURING THE WORLD CUP, I KEPT HEARING PEOPLE SAY "JAPAN'S DEFINITELY GONNA WIN THIS YEAR!"
MY YOUTH ISN'T COMING BACK.

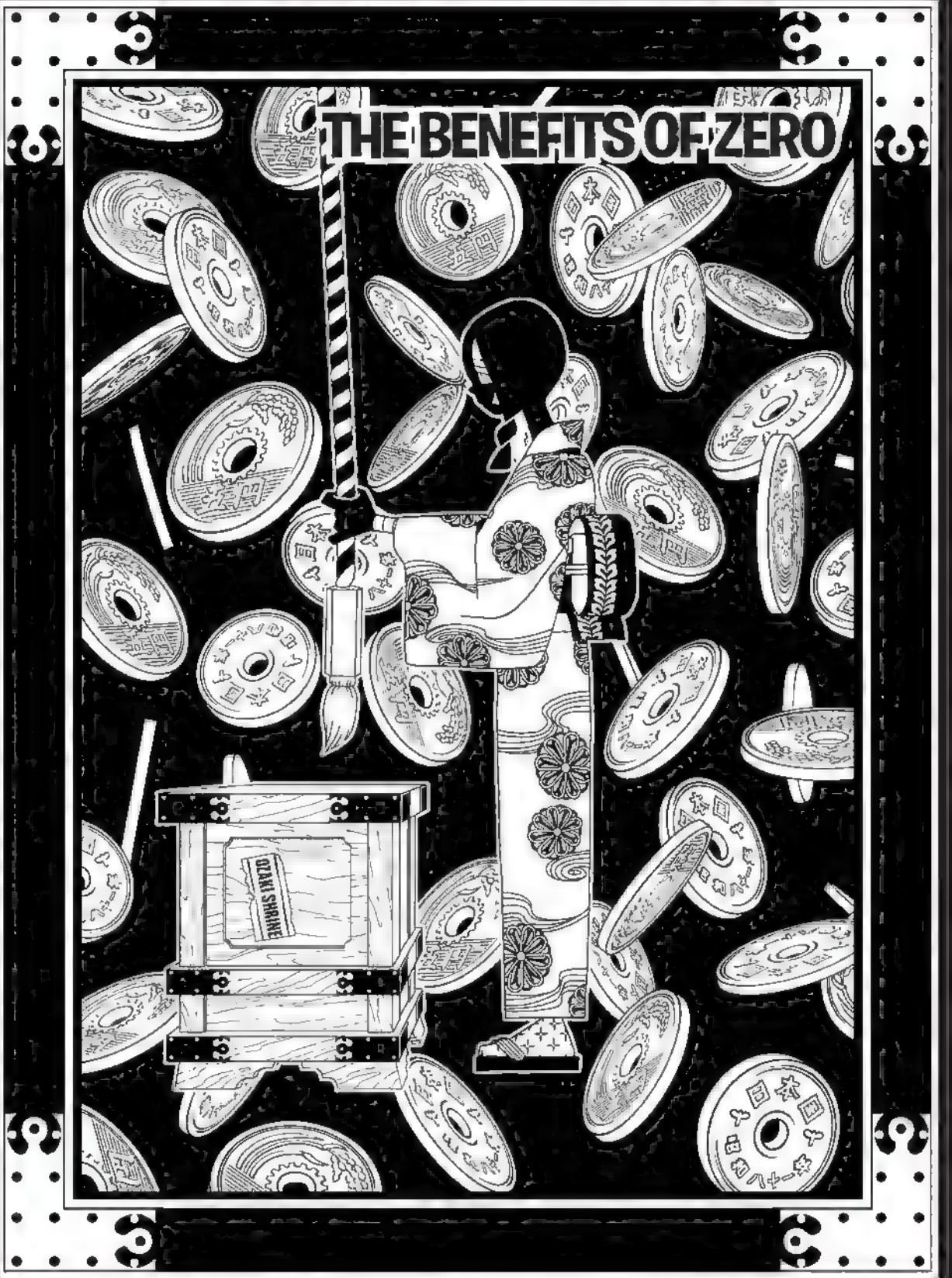
HOW TO MAKE SEALED PAGES



APPLY GLUE ON THE SIDES OF PAGE 88 AND PAGE 89 AND MAKE YOUR OWN SEALED PAGES.

SOMETIMES THE PAGES ARE STUCK TOGETHER FREE OF CHARGE.
ふっ HEH
DUE TO OUR BUDGET, WE WEREN'T ABLE TO SEAL THE PAGES BEFORE THE BOOK WAS PUBLISHED.

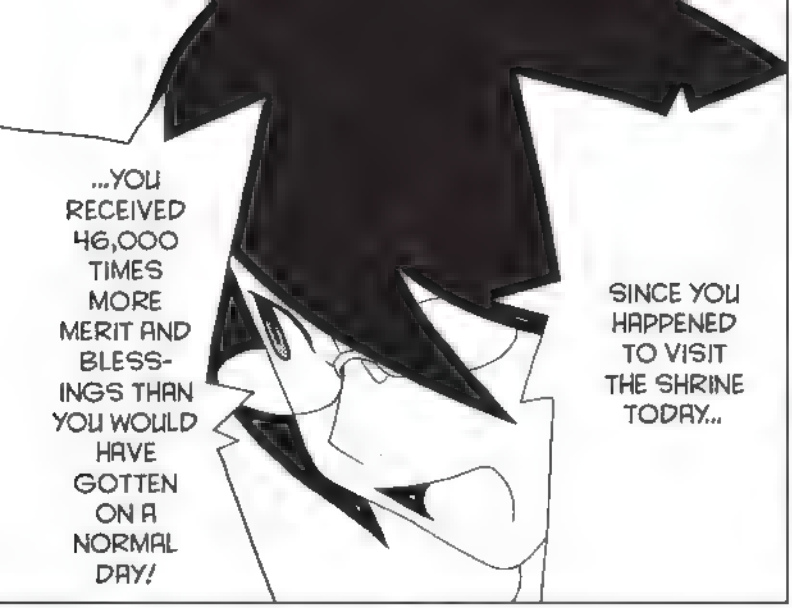
IF ANY OF THE PAGES WERE MISSING OR OUT OF ORDER, PLEASE SEND YOUR BOOK BACK TO US ALONG WITH THE NAME OF THE STORE WHERE THE BOOK WAS PURCHASED. WE WILL SEND YOU A NEW COPY AND COVER THE SHIPPING COSTS. TEL: (XX) XXXX-XXXX



CHAPTER 57

You can even eat the tail.
TAIYAKI
DARTS
YAKITORI
Made with seawater
fried shrimp
AS LONG AS WE'RE HERE, WE MAY AS WELL GO VISIT THE SHRINE.

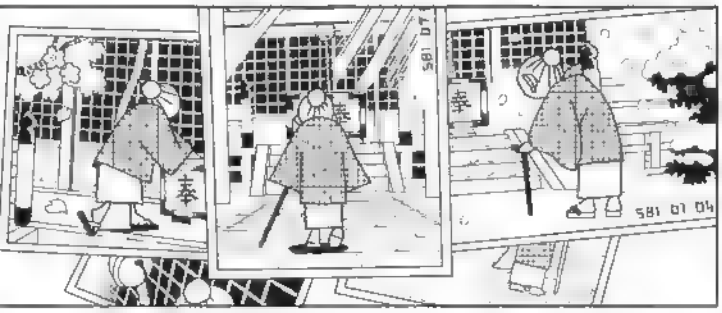
YOU'RE CHEATING!
WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN I'M CHEATING?
DON'T PLAY DUMB WITH ME.
WAH!
...“DAY 46,000,” AND YOU KNOW IT.
TODAY IS...
10
SHRINE FESTIVAL
17
...YOU GET MERIT CREDITS WORTH 46,000 SHRINE VISITS!
IF YOU VISIT THE SHRINE ON THIS SPECIAL DAY...
×
46,000

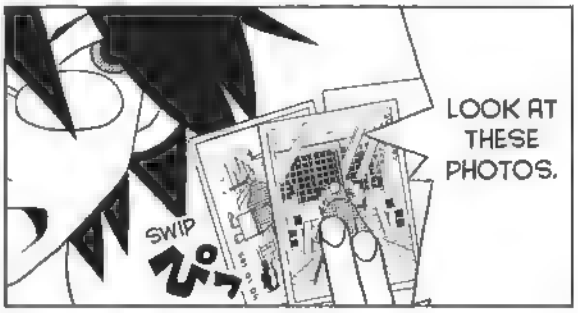

...YOU RECEIVED 46,000 TIMES MORE MERIT AND BLESS-INGS THAN YOU WOULD HAVE GOTTEN ON A NORMAL DAY!
SINCE YOU HAPPENED TO VISIT THE SHRINE TODAY...

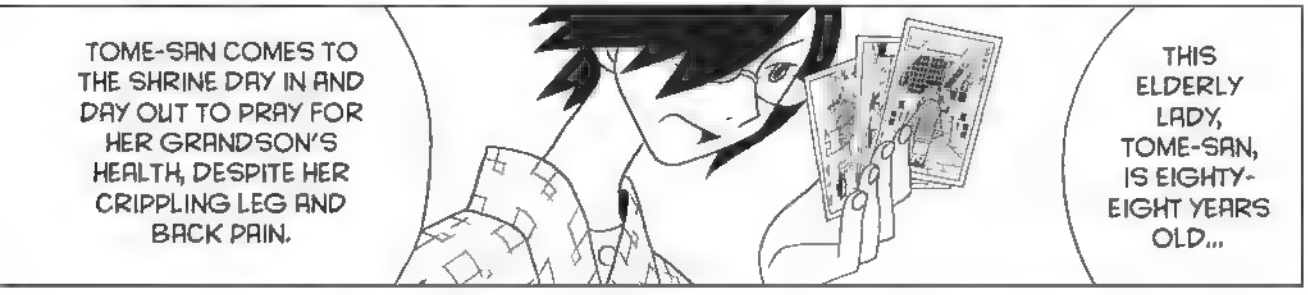
THAT'S RIGHT. THAT MEANS YOU CAN GET 126 DAYS' WORTH OF MERIT IN JUST ONE DAY.
46,000 VISITS?

ずごっ
SMACK
LUCKY?

HOW LUCKY.
REALLY?




SWIP
ぴっ
LOOK AT THESE PHOTOS.


TOME-SAN COMES TO THE SHRINE DAY IN AND DAY OUT TO PRAY FOR HER GRANDSON'S HEALTH, DESPITE HER CRIPPLING LEG AND BACK PAIN.
THIS ELDERLY LADY, TOME-SAN, IS EIGHTY-EIGHT YEARS OLD...

BUT GOD WILL BESTOW UPON YOU MORE MERIT THAN TOME-SAN HAS ACCUMU-LATED DURING ALL OF HER DAILY SHRINE VISITS.
YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND, JUST HAPPENED TO SHOW UP HERE TODAY.

...AND SHE COULDN'T MAKE IT TO THE SHRINE.
OF ALL DAYS, SHE HAPPENED TO FALL ILL TODAY...

JUST BECAUSE YOU HAPPENED TO HAVE THE RIGHT TIMING, YOU GOT EXTRA BLESSINGS!

NOW DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S A LITTLE UNFAIR?

...THEY HAVE SPECIAL ONE-DAY-ONLY SALES WHERE YOU GET THIRTY TIMES MORE BONUS POINTS THAN USUAL!

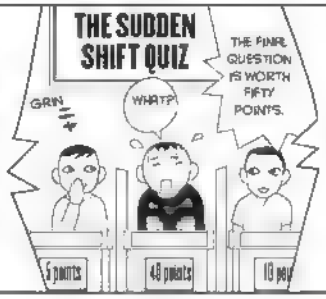
AT A CERTAIN PHARMACY...

AND PHENOMENON LIKE THIS OCCUR THROUGHOUT OUR SOCIETY EVERY DAY.

EVEN IF A TEAM IS 20 GAMES BEHIND THE TOP TEAM, THEY CAN STILL MAKE IT TO THE WORLD SERIES BY WINNING THE BEST OF FIVE PLAYOFF GAMES.

DURING BASEBALL PLAYOFFS...

...ANSWER THE FINAL QUESTION AND YOU GET FIVE TIMES THE NORMAL AMOUNT OF POINTS.



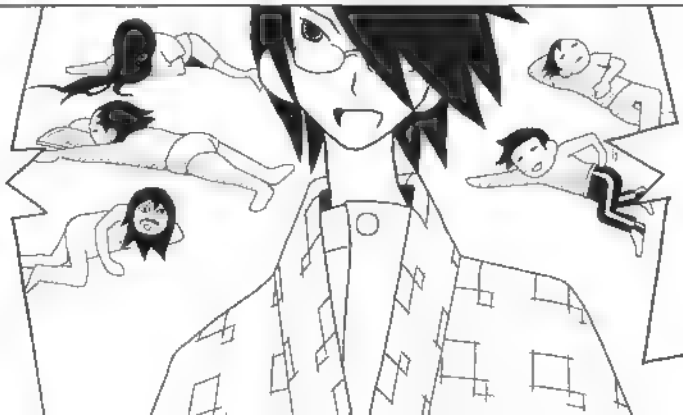
IN QUIZ SHOWS...

...NOBODY WOULD COME TO SCHOOL FOR THE NEXT 126 YEARS!

...THIS SINGLE DAY WAS WORTH 46,000 DAYS OF ATTENDANCE...

IF YOU CAME TO SCHOOL TODAY, AND...

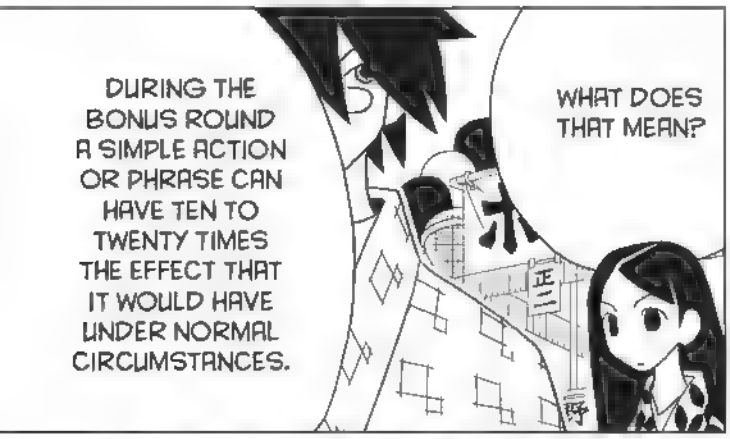
...WILL BECOME A SOCIETY THAT ONLY BOTHERS TO WORK WHEN SOME KIND OF SPECIAL BONUS IS INVOLVED.

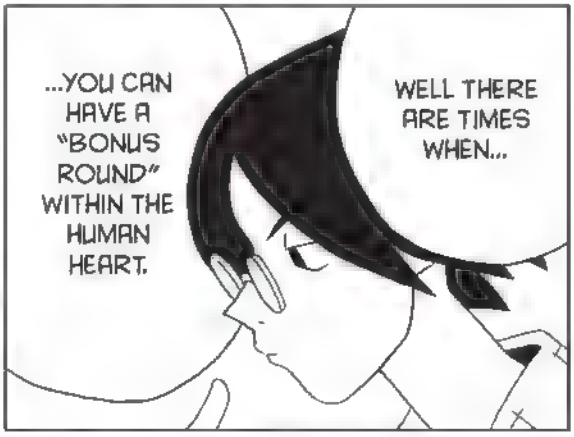


IF WE ALLOW THIS TO CONTINUE, JAPAN...

I'VE LOST ALL FAITH IN THIS SOCIETY WHERE THE AMOUNT OF MERIT YOU RECEIVE DEPENDS ONLY ON HOW GOOD YOUR TIMING IS.
IT'S HOPE-LESS!

DID YOU JUST CHANGE YOUR MIND?
IT WOULD BE NICE TO BE ABLE TO GO THROUGH LIFE WITH PERFECT TIMING.
ALTHOUGH...


DURING THE BONUS ROUND A SIMPLE ACTION OR PHRASE CAN HAVE TEN TO TWENTY TIMES THE EFFECT THAT IT WOULD HAVE UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES.
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?


...YOU CAN HAVE A "BONUS ROUND" WITHIN THE HUMAN HEART.
WELL THERE ARE TIMES WHEN...

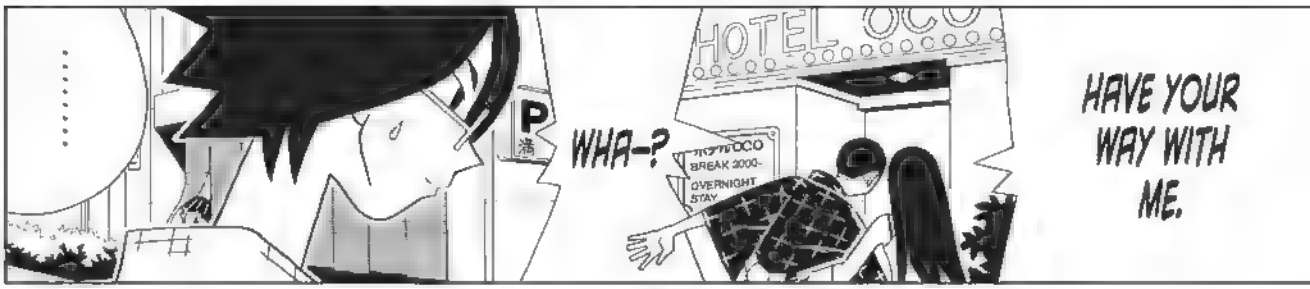
WHOA.
ピ-BEEP,
ピピBEEP,
ピピ
I ASKED IKKYUU-SAN TO ATTACH A SMALL SONAR MEASUREMENT DEVICE TO HER.

FOR EXAMPLE, TAKE A LOOK AT HER.
SHE JUST BROKE UP WITH HER BOYFRIEND.
ムカ
ラ・マンカス

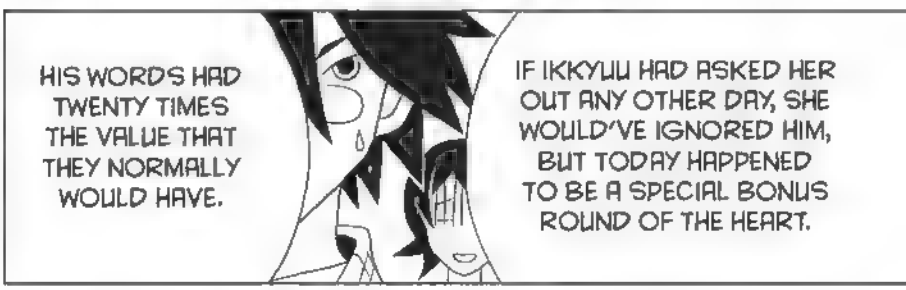
WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE SOME GREEN TEA WITH ME?

WHAT AN AMAZING BONUS ROUND!
SMASH
ぼんっ

DO WITH ME WHAT YOU PLEASE.
WHATEVER YOU SAY.


.....
P
WHA-?
HOTEL
BREAK 2000-
OVERNIGHT STAY
HAVE YOUR WAY WITH ME.

MAKE SURE YOU NEVER MISS OUT ON A BONUS ROUND OF THE HEART, OKAY EVERYBODY?


HIS WORDS HAD TWENTY TIMES THE VALUE THAT THEY NORMALLY WOULD HAVE.
IF IKKYUU HAD ASKED HER OUT ANY OTHER DAY, SHE WOULD'VE IGNORED HIM, BUT TODAY HAPPENED TO BE A SPECIAL BONUS ROUND OF THE HEART.

NOBODY WANTS TO BE SINGLE DURING SUMMER BREAK.
NOW THAT SUMMER BREAK IS APPROACHING, NEW COUPLES ARE FORMING AT A RATE SEVERAL TIMES THE NORM.

THAT KINDA STUFF DEFINITELY HAPPENS IN RELATIONSHIPS.
BEEP BEEP
ピピピ

...WHEN YOU READ IT LATE AT NIGHT!

X3

Hilarious stories based on real life.

GAG MANGA IS THREE TIMES FUNNIER...

...CAN BE WORTH A DRASTICALLY DIFFERENT AMOUNT OF POINTS BASED ON TIME, PLACE, AND OCCASION.

THAT'S RIGHT. THE SAME ACTION OR PHRASE...

...WHEN YOU EAT IT AT THE BEACH!

X10

YAKISOBA TASTES TEN TIMES BETTER...

...WHEN YOU'RE FEELING DOWN!

YOU ARE SAVED

KIND WORDS FROM A FRIEND, CAN SEEM FIFTY TIMES MORE SPECIAL...

...AFTER A BAD DAY AT WORK.

HOT SPRINGS SEEM TO BE 20 TIMES MORE RELAXING...

- MISO SOUP TASTES BETTER WHEN YOU EAT IT OVERSEAS. +10 TIMES
- READING JAPANESE LITERATURE BY THE SEA OF JAPAN MAKES YOU FEEL MORE EMOTIONAL. +40 TIMES
- YOU FEEL EXTRA THANKFUL WHEN YOU SEE NIPPLES IN *SHONEN* MANGA. +15 TIMES
- KAKA LOOKS EVEN MORE HANDSOME WHEN HE'S WITH THE REST OF THE BRAZILIAN SOCCER TEAM. +30 TIMES
- HIDETOSHI NAKATA'S VALUE INCREASED WHEN HE RETIRED RIGHT AFTER THE WORLD CUP. +20 TIMES

IT'S ALL ABOUT T.P.O. TIME, PLACE, AND OCCASION... THAT IS TO SAY, PROPER TIMING CAN GIVE YOUR WORDS AND ACTIONS TWENTY OR THIRTY TIMES THEIR USUAL POWER!

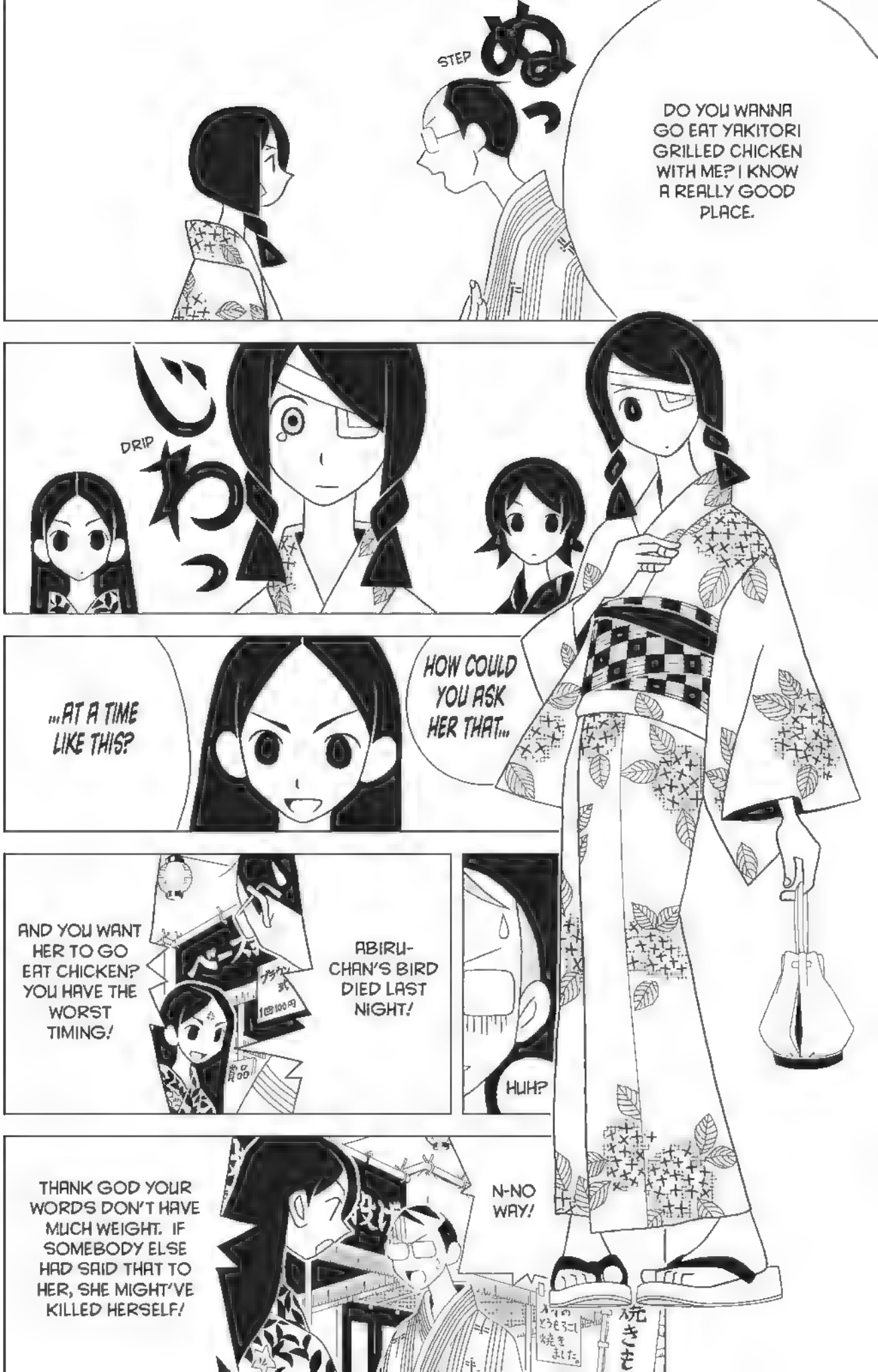
I THINK RIGHT NOW IS THE PERFECT TIME TO STRIKE!

白あん

黒あん

PERFECT TIMING, EH?

THANKS FOR CLUEING ME IN ON THAT.


STEP
DO YOU WANNA GO EAT YAKITORI GRILLED CHICKEN WITH ME? I KNOW A REALLY GOOD PLACE.
DRIP
HOW COULD YOU ASK HER THAT...
...AT A TIME LIKE THIS?
HUH?
ABIRU-CHAN'S BIRD DIED LAST NIGHT!
AND YOU WANT HER TO GO EAT CHICKEN? YOU HAVE THE WORST TIMING!
N-NO WAY!
THANK GOD YOUR WORDS DON'T HAVE MUCH WEIGHT. IF SOMEBODY ELSE HAD SAID THAT TO HER, SHE MIGHT'VE KILLED HERSELF!

SOUNDS LIKE SHE WAS HAVING A MINUS-POINT BONUS ROUND.

AHH.

...CAN HAVE SEVERAL TIMES THE LEVEL OF NEGATIVE IMPACT THAT THEY NORMALLY WOULD.

ONCE IN THE MINUS ZONE, ACTIONS AND PHRASES...

THERE ARE INSTANCES WHEN A PERSON'S HEART CAN BE PULLED INTO A "MINUS ZONE."

MINUS-POINT BONUS ROUND?

...YOU'LL BE TWENTY TIMES MORE PISSED THAN USUAL.

YOU FORGOT TO TURN THE BATHROOM LIGHT OFF AGAIN, MAE-KUN.

ギラッ

IF YOUR PARENTS TRY TO TELL YOU WHAT TO DO WHILE YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND OVER...

...AND THEIR CELL PHONE HAPPENS TO BE NEARLY OUT OF BATTERIES, THEY'LL BE TEN TIMES AS FURIOUS AS NORMAL.

WHAT ARE YOU CALLING ABOUT?

SAW RAMOS.

WHEN YOU CALL A FRIEND FOR NO PARTICULAR REASON...

- CURRIED RICE IS SERVED FOR DINNER WHEN YOU HAVE A CANKER SORE. -10 TIMES
- YOU'RE EXHAUSTED FROM PRACTICE AND A FRIEND KICKS YOU IN THE KNEE FROM BEHIND. -15 TIMES
- YOU SET YOUR DVR TO RECORD YOUR FAVORITE ANIME AND FIND OUT A BASEBALL GAME WENT INTO EXTRA INNINGS. -40 TIMES
- SOMEBODY WON'T LET YOU OFF THE PHONE WHEN YOU REALLY HAVE TO GO TO THE BATHROOM. -20 TIMES
- IT RAINS AS SOON AS YOU GET YOUR CAR WASHED. -30 TIMES

MINUS POINT ROUNDS ABOUND IN EVERYDAY LIFE.

HMM...

...WANNA DIE.

AHH, IT MAKES ME...

...THESE TYPES OF SITUATIONS A LOT.

I HAVE A TENDENCY TO GET INTO...

WHAT WOULD BE THE PERFECT TIMING FOR DEATH?
HOW ABOUT DEATH?

YOU WANT PEOPLE TO FEEL SAD?
I'M GONNA AIM FOR A DEATH THAT MAKES PEOPLE THIRTY TIMES SADDER THAN NORMAL!

...SEEM SEVERAL TIMES SADDER THAN USUAL.
I MEAN THE KIND OF TIMING THAT WILL MAKE AN ORDINARY DEATH...

IT'S FIVE TIMES SADDER THAN DYING ALONE.
YEAH, IT'S DEFINITELY SAD WHEN SOMEBODY DIES IN THE MIDDLE OF PURSUING HIS DREAM.

...WHILE TRAINING FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL WORLD SERIES?
HOW ABOUT YOU DIE SUDDENLY...

THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A DEATH THAT'S THIRTY TIMES SADDER THAN NORMAL?

AH, KUTOU-KUN, PERFECT TIMING.

...IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR MASS APPEAL, YOU COULD ALWAYS MODEL YOUR DEATH AFTER A JAPANESE TRAGEDY NOVEL.
I'M NOT REALLY A FAN, BUT...

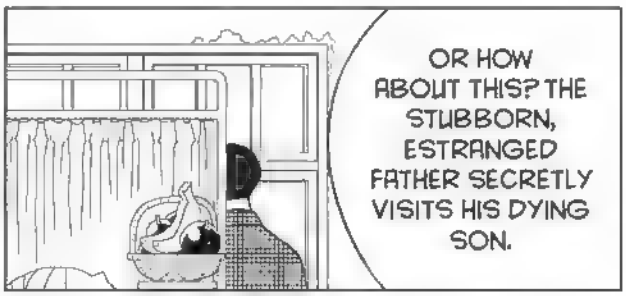
ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS STAND THERE, LOOKING OUT THE SANITARIUM WINDOW, AND SAY SOMETHING REALLY DEEP AND EMOTIONAL, LIKE...
THE LEAD CHARACTER IS ALWAYS DIAGNOSED WITH SOME TERMINAL ILLNESS...

I SEE.
THERE ARE A MILLION BOOKS LIKE THAT COMING OUT THESE DAYS.

GET IT?

HEH
THE OCEAN IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME, YET IT SEEMS SO FAR AWAY...

AND THE GIRLFRIEND TRIES TO ACT ALL TOUGH AS SHE PREPARES TO LOSE HER BELOVED BOY-FRIEND.


OR HOW ABOUT THIS? THE STUBBORN, ESTRANGED FATHER SECRETLY VISITS HIS DYING SON.

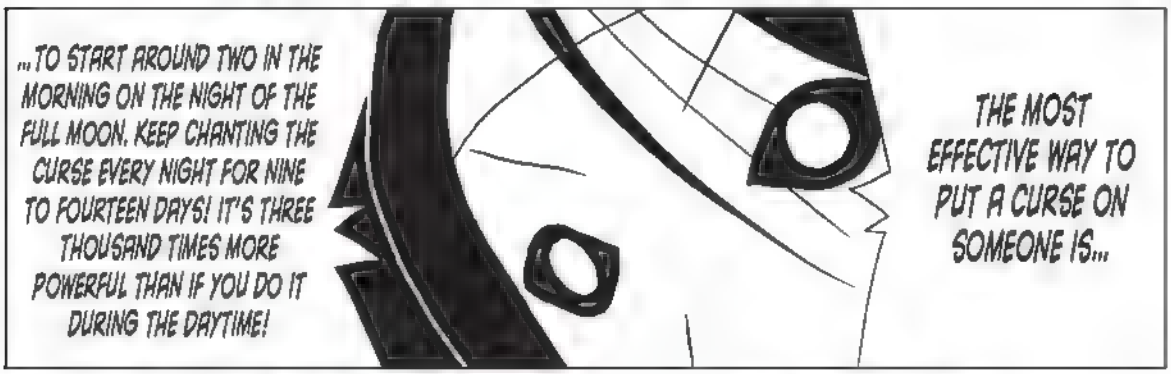
FIRST I'D BETTER FIND A GIRLFRIEND WHO WILL PUT ON A TOUGH EXTERIOR AS SHE PREPARES TO LOSE ME.
THOSE ARE GREAT IDEAS.
A girlfriend who will

UNABLE TO COMPREHEND HIS DEATH, HIS DOG JOYFULLY WAITS FOR HIS MASTER TO RETURN HOME.

AFTER THE LEAD CHARACTER'S DEATH, UNDERNEATH HIS PILLOW THEY FIND AN ENGAGEMENT RING, WHICH HE NEVER HAD THE CHANCE TO GIVE TO HIS GIRLFRIEND.

COLLEGE STUDENT?

GREAT IDEA.
HOW ABOUT THAT COLLEGE STUDENT NEXT DOOR?

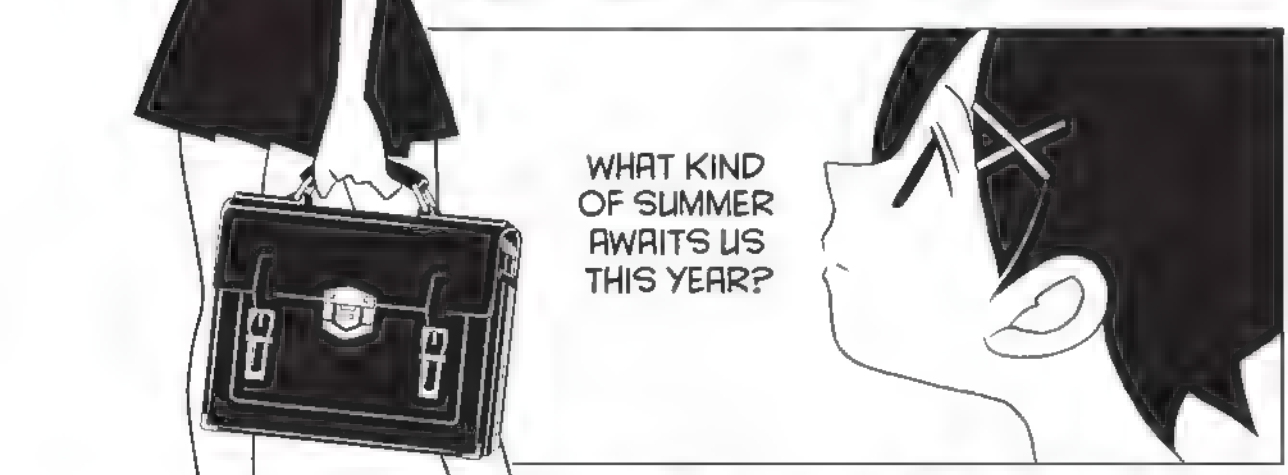

...TO START AROUND TWO IN THE MORNING ON THE NIGHT OF THE FULL MOON. KEEP CHANTING THE CURSE EVERY NIGHT FOR NINE TO FOURTEEN DAYS! IT'S THREE THOUSAND TIMES MORE POWERFUL THAN IF YOU DO IT DURING THE DAYTIME!
THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO PUT A CURSE ON SOMEONE IS...

...IS GONNA MAKE ANYBODY FEEL THIRTY TIMES SADDER.
I DON'T THINK DYING LIKE THIS...
ずぉ
STING
WAH.
SMACK
BOOM
WHACK
NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL PERFECT TIMING!

ACCORDING TO OUR RESEARCH, BOYS WHO WATCHED THE ANIME *NADIA* AS TEENS...
...TEND TO PREFER HEAVILY SHADED FEMALE CHARACTERS TWICE AS MUCH AS UNSHADED CHARACTERS.
TWICE AS MUCH?
YOU HAVE TO SHADE YOUR ENTIRE FACE, CHIRI-CHAN.
YOU LOOK LIKE A TOTALLY DIFFERENT PERSON.

CHAPTER 58

SUMMER BREAK BEGINS THE DAY AFTER TOMOR-ROW.



WHAT KIND OF SUMMER AWAITS US THIS YEAR?

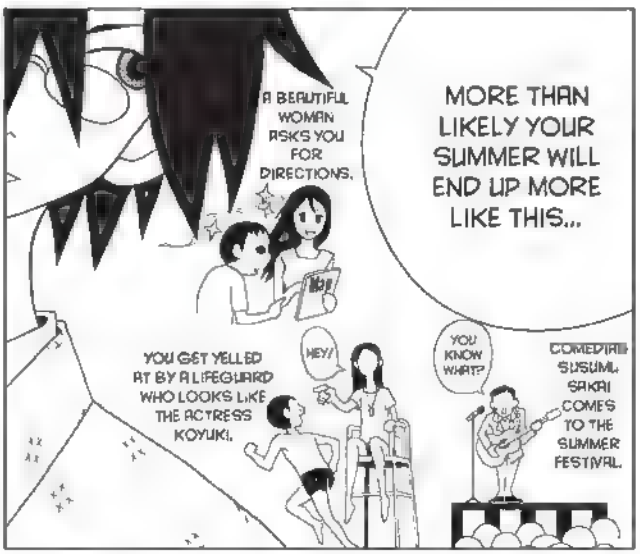
EVERY-BODY HAS VERY HIGH EXPECTA-TIONS.

...ABOUT THOSE HIGH EXPECTATIONS?
BUT TAKE A MOMENT TO CONSIDER HOW THE SUMMER MUST FEEL...
You can do it.
YOUR PARENTS EXPECT YOU TO GET INTO A TOP UNIVERSITY.
TIONS'
DONA
VOLUNTEERS EXPECT YOU TO MAKE A DONATION.
MMM
BOYS EXPECT YOU TO KISS THEM.
DON'T YOU HATE IT WHEN PEOPLE HAVE HIGH EXPECTATIONS OF YOU?
How to spend your summer break
Disappointment
Line of disappointment
Expectations
THE HIGHER YOUR EXPECTATIONS ARE, THE GREATER THE CHANCES THAT YOU'LL END UP DISAPPOINTED.
I THINK YOU GUYS ARE EXPECTING TOO MUCH FROM THIS COMING SUMMER.

NOW I UNDERSTAND THE TRUE MEANING OF LIFE.
YOU'RE HEADING TO HOKKAIDO FOR A LITTLE SOUL-SEARCHING AND YOU'RE EXPECTING TO MEET A PERSON THERE WHO WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE.
Shibuya
YOU'RE EXPECTING A TALENT SCOUT TO SPOT YOU IN SHIBUYA!
PAT
ぽん
こっちきて お話しない
YOU'RE EXPECTING TO HAVE AN AFFAIR WITH A WIDOW IN KARUIZAWA!

...IT AIN'T GONNA HAPPEN.
SORRY, BUT...

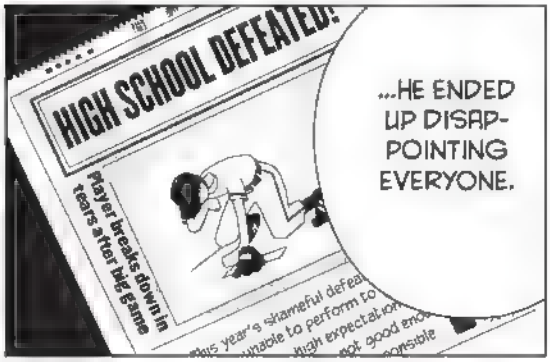
...IT'S CONSIDERED TABOO TO HAVE HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR THE SUMMER.
YOU SEE, AT THIS SCHOOL...


A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN ASKS YOU FOR DIRECTIONS.
MORE THAN LIKELY YOUR SUMMER WILL END UP MORE LIKE THIS...
YOU GET YELLED AT BY A LIFEGUARD WHO LOOKS LIKE THE ACTRESS KOYUKI.
HEY!
YOU KNOW WHAT?
COMEDIAN SUSUMU SAKAI COMES TO THE SUMMER FESTIVAL.

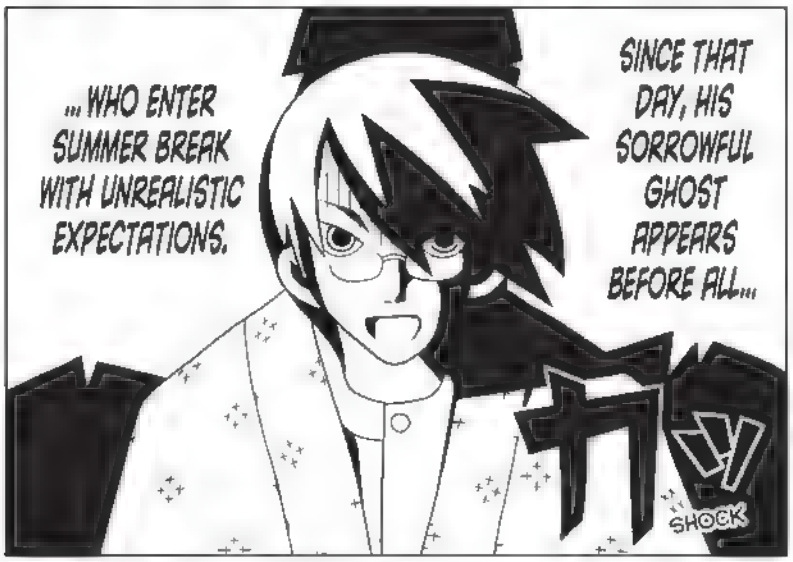
1
YOU MEAN BECAUSE OF HIM?
FLASH

IT'S A UNIFORM THAT BELONGED TO ONE OF OUR SCHOOL'S TOP BASE-BALL PLAYERS YEARS AGO.
WHAT'S THAT?

YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO BRING THAT IN HERE!


HIGH SCHOOL DEFEATED!
Player breaks down in tears after big game
...HE ENDED UP DISAP-POINTING EVERYONE.

BUT THE PRESSURE PROVED TOO MUCH FOR HIM, AND...
PEOPLE HAD HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR HIM.


...WHO ENTER SUMMER BREAK WITH UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS.
SINCE THAT DAY, HIS SORROWFUL GHOST APPEARS BEFORE ALL...
SHOCK

HE FELT RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS TEAM'S DEFEAT AND TOOK HIS OWN LIFE.
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

AS LONG AS YOU ALL KEEP YOUR EXPECTATIONS IN CHECK, WE'LL BE FINE.
H-HIS GHOST? ARE YOU KIDDING?

1
!
DEATH NOTE
Summer Movie Previews
AH, THIS LOOKS GOOD.
I HAVE NO EXPECTATIONS.
WELL...
PAUSE
ぴー
HUH?
1
FWAH
ふわっ
ぴら
FWIP
1
ゴロ
RUMBLE
ゴロ
RUMBLE
HUH?
カッ
FLASH
YOU HAD EXPECTATIONS JUST NOW, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU SAID THAT MOVIE LOOKED GOOD.
AAAAAHH.
AH.

ABANDON ALL EXPECTA-TIONS!
ABANDON YOUR EXPECTA-TIONS!

THE SENSEI'S POSSESSED BY THE GHOST OF THAT BALL-PLAYER!
OH NO!

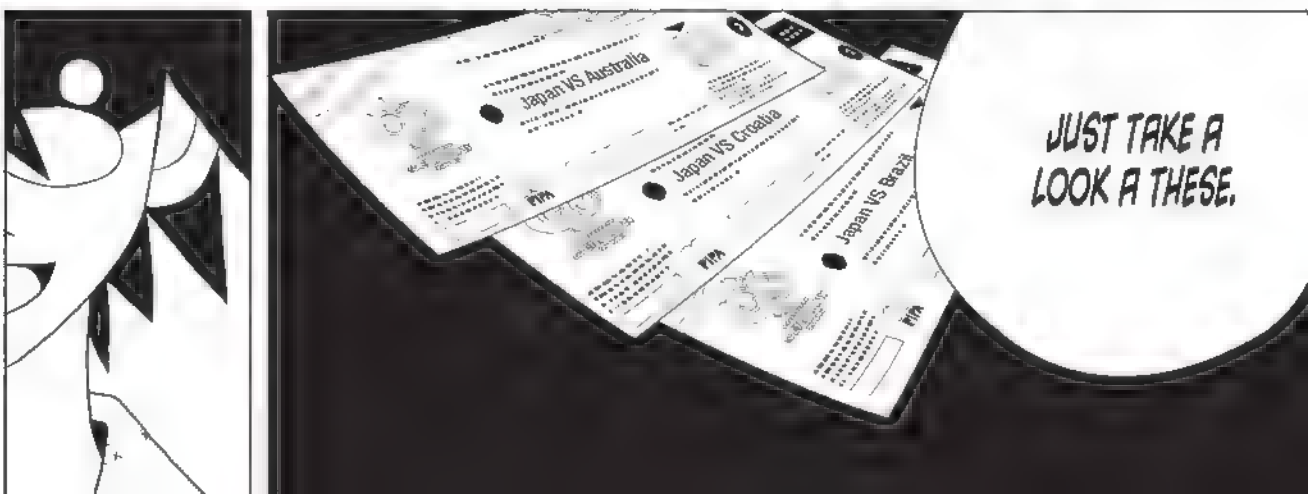
ALL RIGHT, I'VE GOT AN IDEA.
WE'VE GOTTA DO SOME-THING!

AM I THE ONLY ONE?
AM I THE ONLY ONE WHO DISAP-POINTED EVERYONE?

...FAILED TO MEET EXPECTATIONS, MAYBE HIS SUFFERING WILL MELT AWAY.
IF WE BRING UP OTHER THINGS THAT HAVE...

NO, OF COURSE YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE. THERE'RE TONS OF THINGS IN JAPAN THAT HAVE DISAPPOINTED EVERYONE.
AM I THE ONLY ONE WHO DISAPPOINTED EVERYONE?

OTHER THINGS THAT DIDN'T MEET EXPECTA-TIONS?


Japan VS Australia
Japan VS Croatia
Japan VS Brazil
JUST TAKE A LOOK A THESE.

LOOKS LIKE IT'S WORKING.
HA HA HA HA
THEY WERE VERY DISAPPOINTING.
AHH... THEY WERE DISAPPOINTING INDEED.
IS HE REALLY FROM THE PAST?
WHEN TAMADA MADE THAT GOAL, EVERYONE'S EXPECTATIONS SHOT UP, BUT JUST LOOK HOW IT ENDED.
OKAY, HOW ABOUT THIS?
MORE EXAMPLES OF DISAPPOINTMENT.
I WANT MORE!
HEH
10007
Actual Value
3,000 yen
BUT WE HAD IT APPRAISED.
Expected Value
10007
MY GRANDPA BOUGHT THIS POT AT AN ANTIQUES SHOP. THEY TOLD HIM IT WAS WORTH AT LEAST 5 MILLION YEN.
MORE EXAMPLES OF DISAPPOINT-MENT.
I WANT MORE!
I GUESS I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO DISAPPOINTED EVERYONE.
WOW. THAT'S REALLY DISAP-POINTING!
THIS IS DEFINITELY DISAP-POINTING.
HOW ABOUT THIS?

- GIANT'S LOVE
- STRESS-FREE EDUCATION
- THE IMAGE OF ACTRESS AKIKO YADA AS AN INNOCENT GIRL
- ACTOR SATOSHI TSUMABUKI'S SINGLE LINE "GO!" IN HIS FIRST HOLLYWOOD FILM
- THE SPOT WHERE NOBUNAGA ODA WAS KILLED • RAMEN TOWN
- THE FORMER HEAD OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF JAPAN, SEIJI MAEBARA
- ACTOR YUKIO ASHIMA'S TRANSFORMATION INTO A POLITICIAN
- FUJIWARA CASTLE • CANELÉ CAKE • FOLKLORE ROAD
- THE TUITION REIMBURSEMENT SYSTEM AT YOYOGI ANIMATION SCHOOL
- LIFE IN TOKYO, COLLEGE, HIGH SCHOOL, JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

HOW WONDERFUL! JUST LOOK AT ALL OF THESE DISAPPOINTMENTS.

MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT.

SO THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO FEEL RESPONSIBLE JUST BECAUSE YOU FAILED TO MEET PEOPLE'S EXPECTATIONS.

YOU SEE? OUR SOCIETY IS FILLED WITH DISAPPOINTMENTS.

...MAKE SURE YOU AVOID THE PATH OF DESPAIR THAT I'VE TRAVELED. NEVER LET YOURSELF HAVE EXPECTATIONS EVER AGAIN.

OKAY, BUT...

SHUT UP, MATAROU!

EVERYONE IN THIS CLASSROOM HAS FAILED TO MEET THEIR PARENTS' EXPECTATIONS.

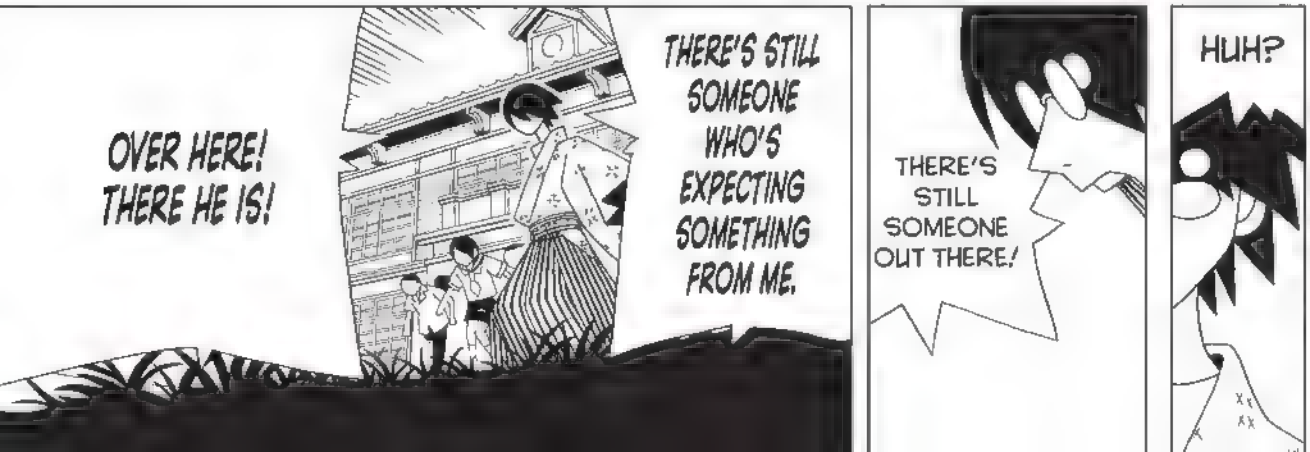
YEAH.

• GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ARE EXPECTING TO GO HOME AT 4 P.M.
• CUSTOMERS AT A TSUNDERE CAFÉ ARE EXPECTING THE WAITRESS TO SHOW HER SOFT SIDE.
GRR
THUMP THUMP
• FORMER SOCCER STAR MASAKIYO ZONO IS EXPECTING AN EMAIL FROM HIDETOSHI NAKATA.
THERE'S STILL SOMEONE OUT THERE WITH EXPECTATIONS!
THERE'S STILL SOMEONE! THERE'S SOMEONE OUT THERE!
!

SHWIP
Reception
SWAMPED
HMMPH, YOU'VE BEEN MEAN THIS WHOLE TIME!
GO HOME!
BONK
I'LL GO MAKE SURE THEIR EXPECTATIONS AREN'T MET.
MY SOUL CANNOT REST.

YOU CAN MOVE ON TO THE NEXT WORLD IN PEACE.
NOW NOBODY HAS EXPECTATIONS.
BEEP
CLACK
CLACK

I'M READY TO MOVE ON...
OKAY... JUST DON'T HAVE EXPECTATIONS EVER AGAIN.


OVER HERE! THERE HE IS!
THERE'S STILL SOMEONE WHO'S EXPECTING SOMETHING FROM ME.
THERE'S STILL SOMEONE OUT THERE!
HUH?

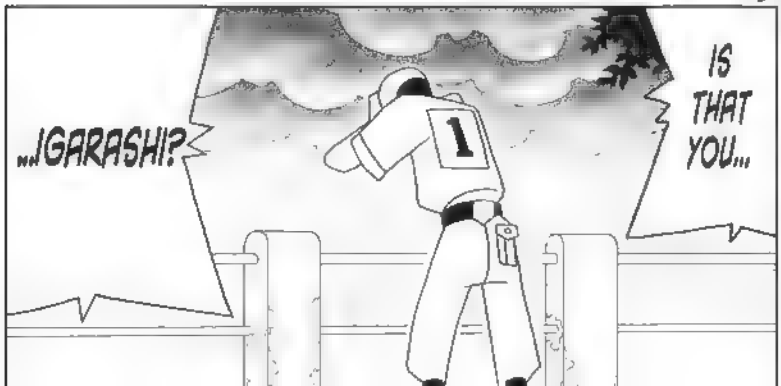
カフェ球団DVD

...TO TAKE HIM HOME.
THAT CAT IS EXPECTING ME...

ARE YOU REALLY A GHOST FROM THE PAST?
I'M NOT ALLOWED TO HAVE PETS IN MY APARTMENT.

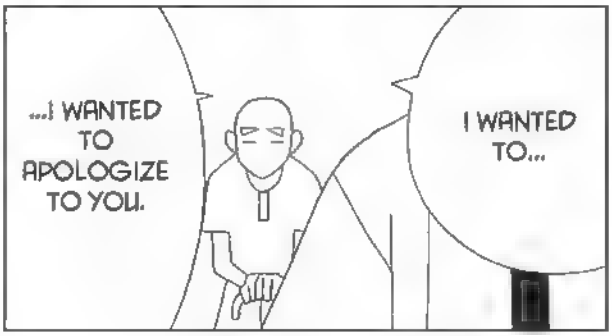
AH!
ABANDON ALL EXPECTA-TIONS!
ABANDON ALL EXPEC-TATIONS!

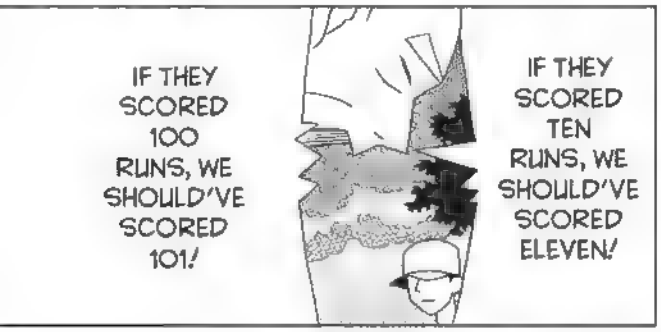
WAHH, I'VE FAILED TO MEET EXPECTATIONS YET AGAIN!
あああ
WAAHH


...IGARASHI?
IS THAT YOU...

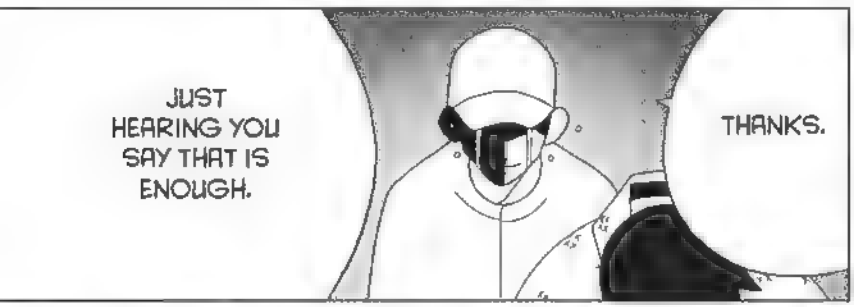
IGARASHI!
TANIGUCHI!
!

OUR TEAM DIDN'T LOSE BECAUSE OF YOU.


...I WANTED TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU.
I WANTED TO...


IF THEY SCORED 100 RUNS, WE SHOULD'VE SCORED 101!
IF THEY SCORED TEN RUNS, WE SHOULD'VE SCORED ELEVEN!

IF THEY SCORED TWO RUNS, WE SHOULD'VE SCORED THREE.
WE SHOULD HAVE BACKED YOU UP.

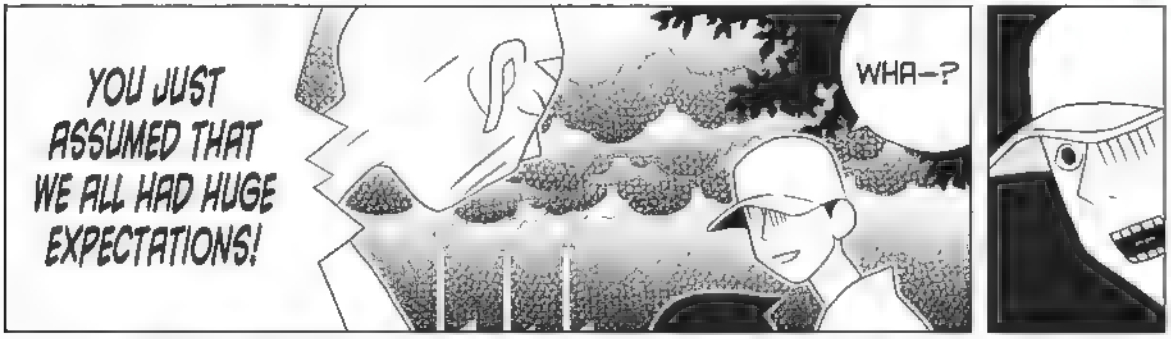

JUST HEARING YOU SAY THAT IS ENOUGH.
THANKS.

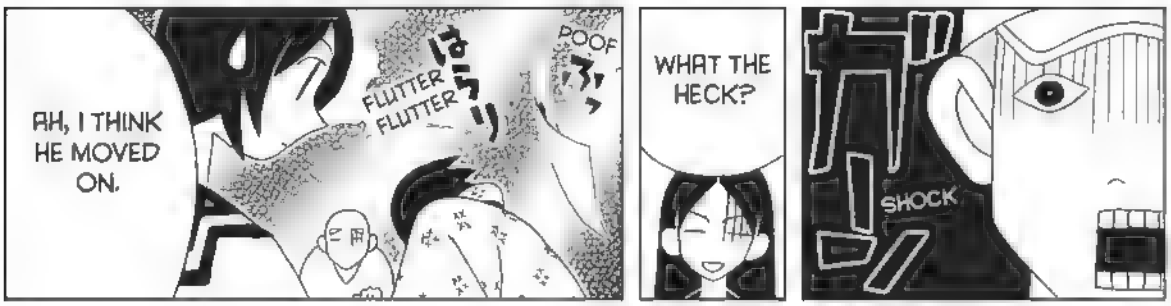
TANIGU-CHI...

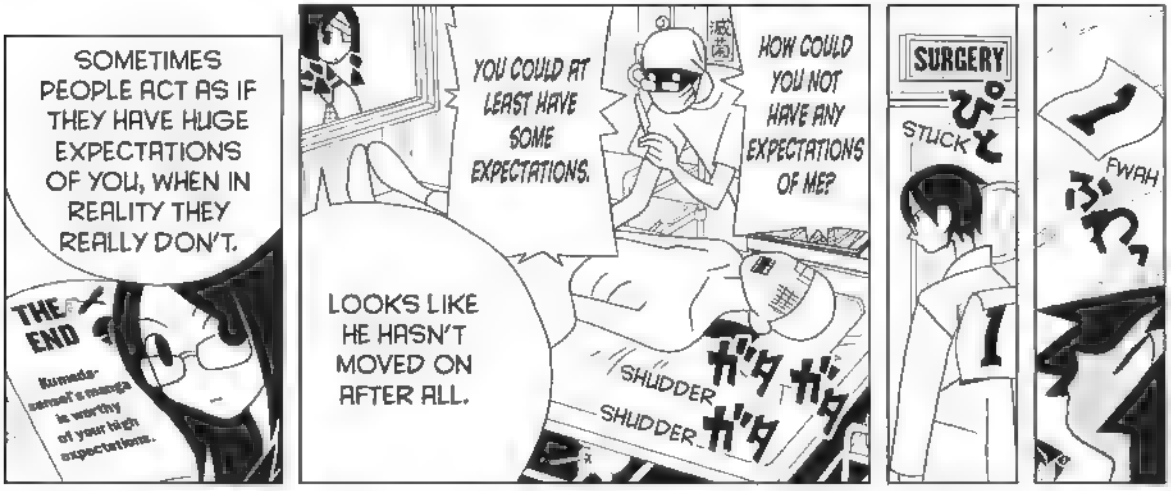
JUST ONE MORE THING BEFORE YOU GO.

I THINK I CAN FINALLY MOVE ON TO THE NEXT WORLD PEACEFULLY.
I'M READY TO GO.

...ANYTHING OF YOU!
NOBODY EXPECTED...


YOU JUST ASSUMED THAT WE ALL HAD HUGE EXPECTATIONS!
WHA—?


AH, I THINK HE MOVED ON.
FLUTTER FLUTTER
POOF
WHAT THE HECK?
SHOCK


SOMETIMES PEOPLE ACT AS IF THEY HAVE HUGE EXPECTATIONS OF YOU, WHEN IN REALITY THEY REALLY DON'T.
THE END
Kuneta-sensei's manga is worthy of your high expectations.
YOU COULD AT LEAST HAVE SOME EXPECTATIONS.
HOW COULD YOU NOT HAVE ANY EXPECTATIONS OF ME?
LOOKS LIKE HE HASN'T MOVED ON AFTER ALL.
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
SURGERY
STUCK
FWAH

SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS
DON'T EXPECT ANYTHING.

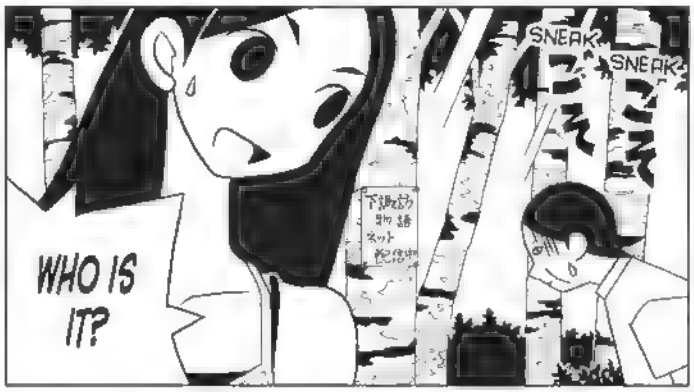
CHAPTER 59

Oshiozawa Lake
WE ARE VISITING A SUMMER RETREAT.
SUMMER RETREAT...
SUMMER RETREAT...

ARE YOU JUST TRYING TO...
...AVOID THE HEAT?
HUH?
THERE ARE PLENTY OF THINGS THAT PEOPLE LOVE TO AVOID.
Otowa no Mori
...COWARD LIKE ME.
ESPECIALLY IF YOU'RE A...
Please donate your blood.
OR AVOIDING DONATING BLOOD WHEN YOU TURN TWENTY YEARS OLD.
OR AVOIDING ANSWERING THE PHONE!
RING RING
COME HERE.
LIKE TRYING TO AVOID DENTAL WORK.

ENJOY THE PERFECT SUMMER RETREAT, SURROUNDED BY NATURE.
KURAIZAWA RUNAWAY VILLAGE
Wanna get away from your own issues...
COME TO KURAIZAWA
...WHO ARE TRYING TO AVOID ISSUES IN THEIR LIVES.
The beauty of nature will help you forget all about reality.
Avoid being seen by hiding away in our lush forests.
A long time ago, Father Joe of Egeres. Church called this "the perfect getaway." Since then, word has spread throughout the country
YOU SEE, THIS IS A RETREAT FOR PEOPLE...

.....


WHO IS IT?
SNEAK SNEAK

WHAT THE HECK?

HE CAME HERE TO AVOID HAVING TO DEAL WITH OTHER PEOPLE.

DON'T BLAME HIM.
SAY SOME-THING!
HEY!
YOINK

IF YOU DON'T MOVE, SOMETHING TERRIBLE IS GONNA HAPPEN TO YOU!
NEXT DOOR NEIGH-BOR
GET OFF YOUR ASS!
AN ALUMNUS FROM YOUR SCHOOL CLUB
KNOCK KNOCK
NHK TV DONATION COLLEC TORS
YOUR GIRL-FRIEND'S PARENTS
JUST THINK OF ALL THE PEOPLE OUT THERE WE'D LIKE TO AVOID.

AVOID OTHERS??
THAT'S RIGHT.

...WHO WANT TO AVOID OTHERS.
JUST UP AHEAD, THERE'S A RETREAT FOR PEOPLE...
Human Avoidance Retreat
Do not enter unless you want to avoid people.

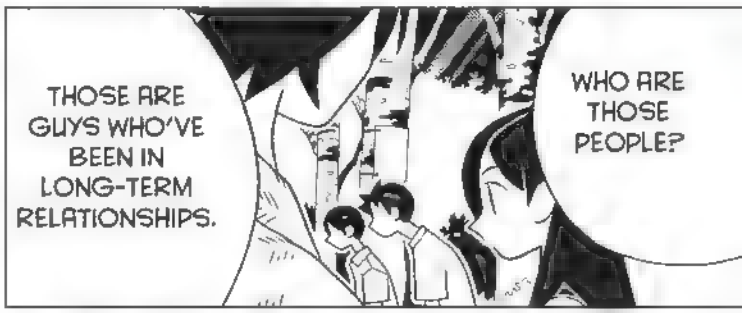
WE'VE...
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO AVOID?

...GETTING A JOB.
...BEEN AVOIDING...

...PEOPLE WHO WANT TO AVOID GETTING A JOB.
THAT'S RIGHT... THIS RETREAT IS FOR...
Employment Avoidance Retreat

WE DON'T WANNA BECOME SLAVES TO SOCIETY.
YOU'RE A SLACKER!

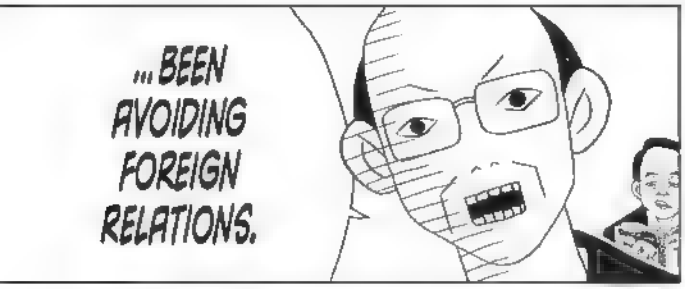
WE'VE...
WHAT ARE YOU AVOIDING?


THOSE ARE GUYS WHO'VE BEEN IN LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIPS.
WHO ARE THOSE PEOPLE?

...PEOPLE WHO WANT TO AVOID GETTING MARRIED.
THAT'S RIGHT... THIS IS A RETREAT FOR...
Marriage Avoidance Retreat

...BEEN AVOIDING MARRIAGE.
BRAVE STORY DIGEST

POLITICIANS AND HIGH-RANKING GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS GO THERE TO AVOID THE ISSUES IN THEIR LIVES.
THERE'S A LUXURY RETREAT OVER THERE.
WHAT'S WITH ALL THOSE LUXURY CARS PARKED OVER THERE?

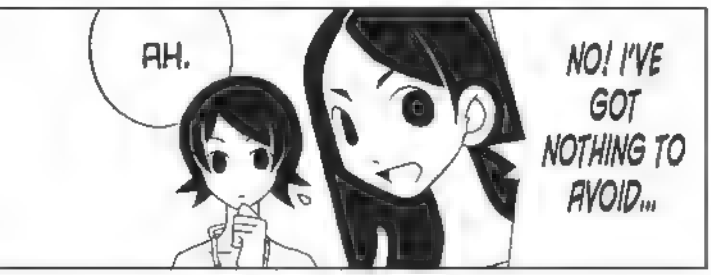

...BEEN AVOIDING FOREIGN RELATIONS.

I'VE...
WHAT ARE YOU AVOIDING?

I'VE BEEN AVOIDING THE DECLINING BIRTH RATE.
I'VE BEEN AVOIDING SOCIAL SECURITY.

DON'T BLAME THEM.
THEY SHOULDN'T BE AVOIDING THOSE ISSUES.

...WANT TO AVOID VARIOUS SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ISSUES.
THIS IS A RETREAT FOR HIGH-RANKING GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO...

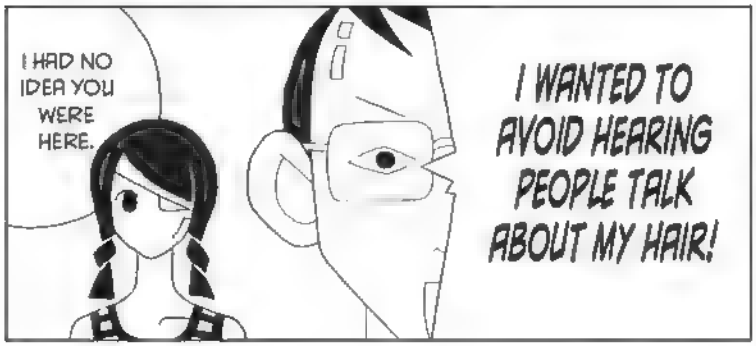

AH.
NO! I'VE GOT NOTHING TO AVOID...

ACTUALLY, I DID COME HERE TO AVOID ONE OF MY ISSUES.

...BECAUSE YOU WANT TO AVOID YOUR OWN ISSUES, RIGHT?
YOU CAME HERE...

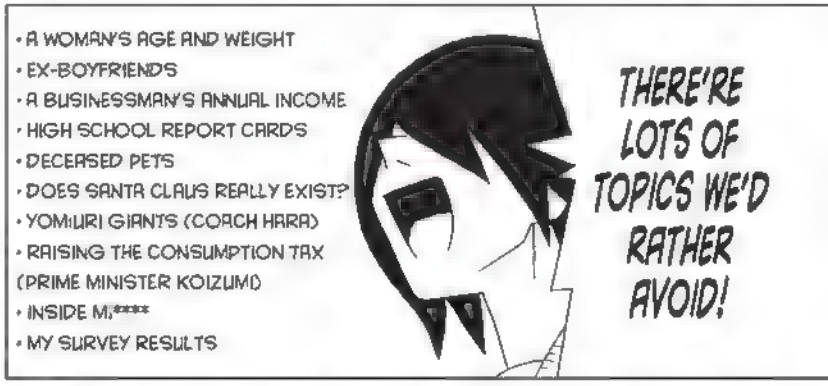
WELL, THAT SOUNDED KIND OF ORDINARY, BUT...
SEE WHAT I MEAN?
DON'T SAY ORDINARY!

WAIT!
I WANTED TO AVOID DISCUSSING MY FUTURE WITH MY PARENTS.
YOU ALWAYS RUN AWAY INTO YOUR ROOM LIKE THAT!


I HAD NO IDEA YOU WERE HERE.
I WANTED TO AVOID HEARING PEOPLE TALK ABOUT MY HAIR!

I CAME HERE TO AVOID AN ISSUE TOO.

EVERYBODY COMES TO THIS RETREAT TO AVOID ISSUES IN THEIR LIVES.
THAT'S RIGHT.


• A WOMAN'S AGE AND WEIGHT
• EX-BOYFRIENDS
• A BUSINESSMAN'S ANNUAL INCOME
• HIGH SCHOOL REPORT CARDS
• DECEASED PETS
• DOES SANTA CLAUS REALLY EXIST?
• YOMIURI GIANTS (COACH HARA)
• RAISING THE CONSUMPTION TAX (PRIME MINISTER KOIZUMI)
• INSIDE M.*****
• MY SURVEY RESULTS
THERE'RE LOTS OF TOPICS WE'D RATHER AVOID!

THAT'S NOT TRUE!
HUH?
...TO AVOID HAVING TO DEAL WITH "REAL" WOMEN.
BY THE WAY, HE'S HERE...

ズゴアアア
SHOCK
EEW, I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU ACTUALLY SAID THAT.

...I'M JUST MORE INTO WOMEN IN THE TWO-DIMENSIONAL WORLD!
I'M NOT AVOIDING THEM...

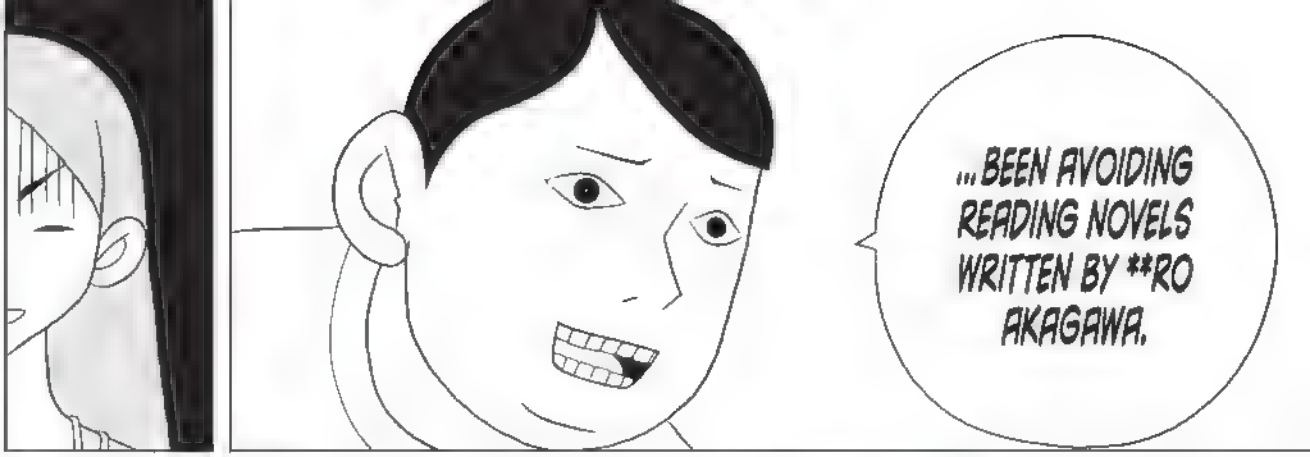
THAT.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
OH YEAH, YOU'VE BEEN AVOIDING YOUR BIG ISSUE TOO, HARUMI.

REAL LIFE "BOY'S LOVE."
Mirare
Makuccha

...ARE REALLY SERIOUS ABOUT THE ISSUES THEY'RE TRYING TO AVOID.
PEOPLE WHO COME TO THIS RETREAT...
AAAAAHHH
あ
あ
わ

...IT'S LED TO A LOT OF PEOPLE MAKING CASUAL VISITS TO THESE RETREATS.
BUT A LOT OF CONDOS HAVE BEEN BUILT AROUND THIS AREA LATELY, AND...

WHAT ARE YOU AVOIDING?
I'VE...
LET'S ASK THEM.
THESE ARE PEOPLE WHO DON'T REALLY NEED TO AVOID THEIR ISSUES, BUT ARE GOING OUT OF THE WAY TO AVOID THEM ANYWAY.
CASUAL VISITS?


...BEEN AVOIDING READING NOVELS WRITTEN BY **RO AKAGAWA.

I'VE BEEN AVOIDING WATCHING ALL THE DRAMAS THAT AIR ON NI*** TV.
WHAT ARE YOU AVOIDING?

THEY THINK THEY'LL BE COOL IF THEY AVOID EVERY-THING THAT'S POPULAR WITH THE MASSES.
WE ALL KNOW PEOPLE LIKE HIM.

I'VE BEEN AVOIDING GOING TO HAWAII WHEN-EVER I WANNA VACATION OVERSEAS.
I'VE BEEN AVOIDING PLAYING AS NOBUNAGA IN THE VIDEOGAME NOBUNAGA'S AMBITION.
I'VE BEEN AVOIDING USING DOC*MO AS MY CELL PHONE PROVIDER.

WE'RE FROM THE MANAGEMENT COMPANY THAT OWNS THIS RETREAT!
WHO ARE YOU GUYS?

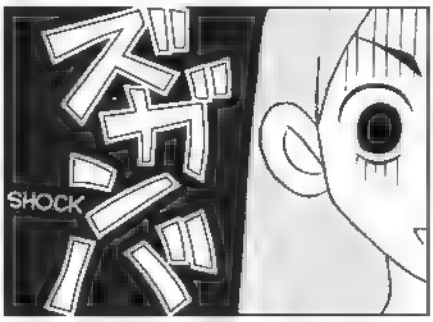
THERE THEY ARE!
HOW RIDICULOUS.

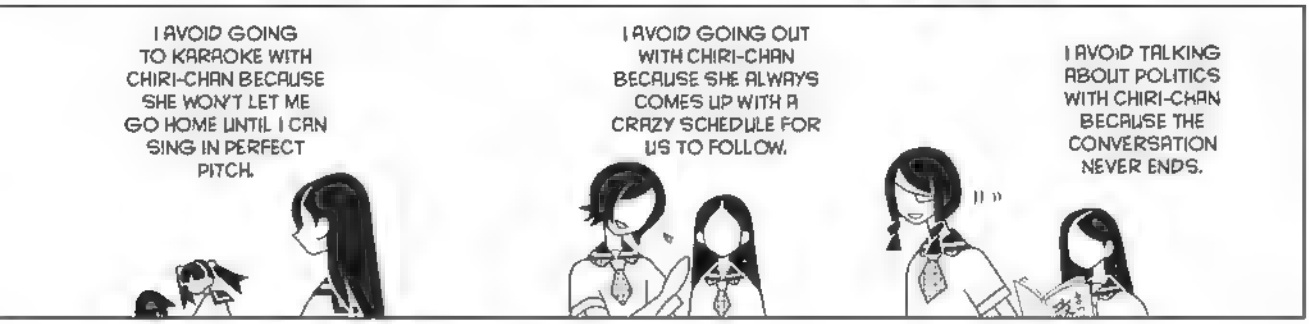
IT'S A SANCTUARY WHERE PEOPLE CAN AVOID THEIR ISSUES AND RELAX.
THIS IS A RETREAT FOR PEOPLE WHO WANT TO AVOID THINGS!

がしっ
GRAB
WE CAN'T HAVE YOU IN HERE.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

...IT WILL RUIN OUR RETREAT.
WARNING
DO NOT ALLOW ENTRY
TRAITS
• Straight talker
• Hair parted in the center
• Correct grammar
IF WE ALLOW ENTRY TO THE VERY PEOPLE OUR GUESTS ARE TRYING TO AVOID...

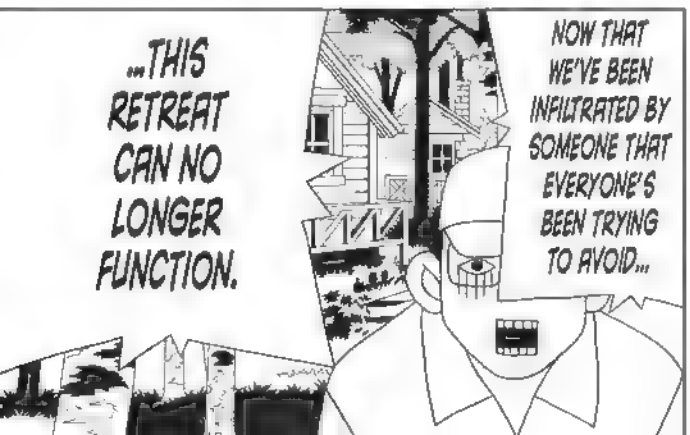
I THINK I GET WHAT THEY MEAN...
ARE YOU SAYING THAT PEOPLE ARE TRYING TO AVOID ME?


SHOCK


I AVOID GOING TO KARAOKE WITH CHIRI-CHAN BECAUSE SHE WON'T LET ME GO HOME UNTIL I CAN SING IN PERFECT PITCH.
I AVOID GOING OUT WITH CHIRI-CHAN BECAUSE SHE ALWAYS COMES UP WITH A CRAZY SCHEDULE FOR US TO FOLLOW.
I AVOID TALKING ABOUT POLITICS WITH CHIRI-CHAN BECAUSE THE CONVERSATION NEVER ENDS.

...THIS HASN'T QUITE FELT LIKE A RETREAT.
SO THAT'S WHY...

MAYBE I'VE BEEN AVOIDING HER UNCONSCIOUSLY.
YOU'VE GOTTA BE IN TIP-TOP SHAPE IF YOU WANNA HANG OUT WITH CHIRI-CHAN.


...THIS RETREAT CAN NO LONGER FUNCTION.
NOW THAT WE'VE BEEN INFILTRATED BY SOMEONE THAT EVERYONE'S BEEN TRYING TO AVOID...

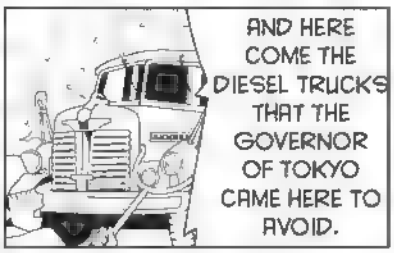
...YOU'VE BEEN TRYING TO AVOID ME?
SO...

I HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO BE HERE.
I'VE BEEN TRYING TO AVOID HAVING MY MANGA ADAPTED INTO AN ANIME.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
GRAB
がしっ
AHH... THERE'S ANOTHER PERSON THAT EVERYONE'S TRYING TO AVOID.

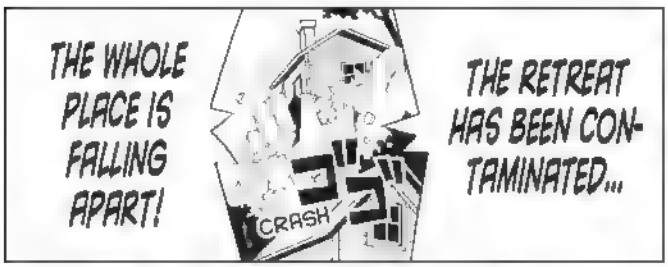
OH NO! WE'RE BEING INVADED FROM ALL SIDES!
SHOCK
ズガーン

YOU'RE THE ONE THE ANIME COMPANIES HAVE COME HERE TO AVOID.
DON'T YOU UNDER-STAND?

CRACK
SNAP
ボーボーボー
SPO!
THERE'S THE YOKO KUMADA LOOK-ALIKE THAT THE REAL YOKO KUMADA IS TRYING TO AVOID!


AND HERE COME THE DIESEL TRUCKS THAT THE GOVERNOR OF TOKYO CAME HERE TO AVOID.

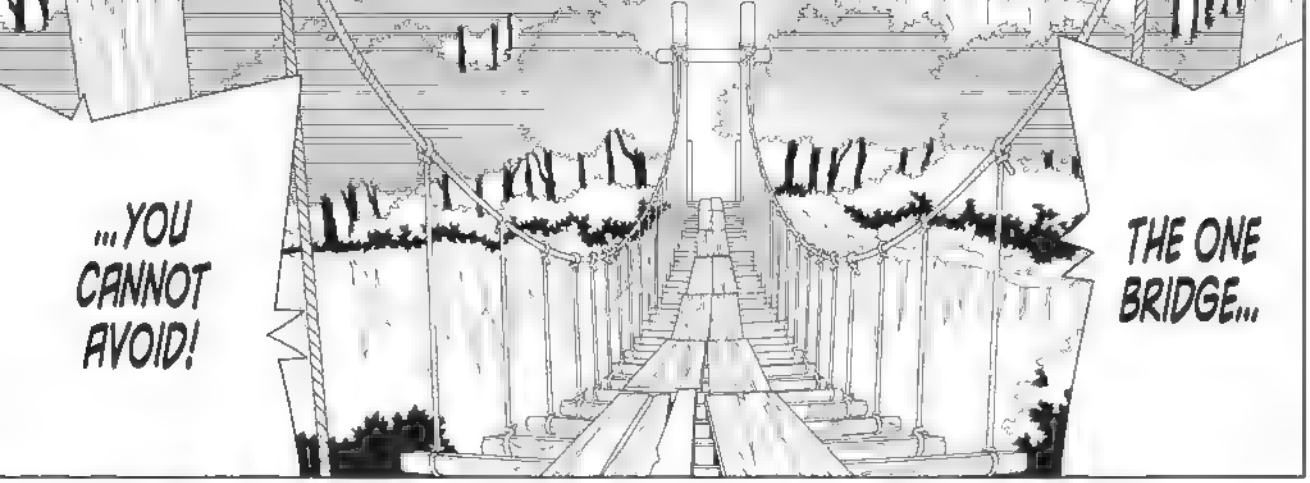
GIANT
THERE'S THAT BASEBALL PLAYER THAT THE COACH CAME HERE TO AVOID.

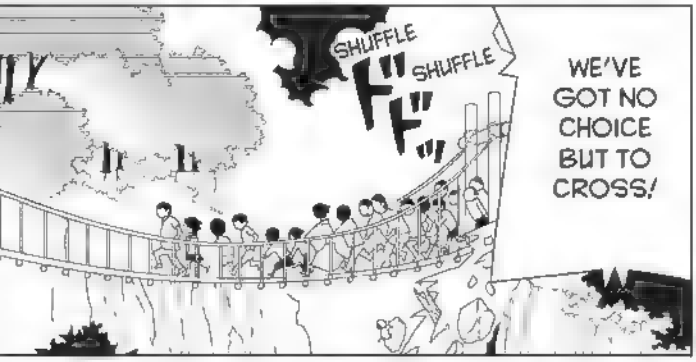

THE WHOLE PLACE IS FALLING APART!
CRASH
ゴゴゴ
THE RETREAT HAS BEEN CON-TAMINATED...

THE OLDER BROTHER BEING AVOIDED BY HIS YOUNGER BROTHER
THE JAPANESE BOXER BEING AVOIDED BY KOMEDA
THE FREELANCE KYOGEN ACTOR BEING AVOIDED BY THE KYOGEN WORLD
LOOK AT THEM ALL! THEY KEEP COMING!
HANAZAWA-SAN BEING AVOIDED BY KATSUO.
A SINGER BEING AVOIDED BY MORNING MUSUME AND SHUN OGURI
DIVAS BEING AVOIDED BY TETSUYA KOMURO
KIM JONG-NAM BEING AVOIDED BY KIM JONG-IL
MITSUHIDE BEING AVOIDED BY NOBUNAGA
FORWARDS BEING AVOIDED BY GOALIES
A MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL PLAYER BEING AVOIDED BY THE ACTRESS NAHO TODA
MR. MURAKAMI BEING AVOIDED BY THE HANSHIN TIGERS
A NEWS COMMENTATOR BEING AVOIDED BY ANCHORMAN SA***KI ARIGA

TH-THIS IS...

THIS WAY!
EVERY-BODY TAKE COVER!


...YOU CANNOT AVOID!
THE ONE BRIDGE...


SHUFFLE
SHUFFLE
ドドドド
WE'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO CROSS!

AAHH, WE'RE GONNA GET CAUGHT IN THAT LAND-SLIDE!

PLEASE BE CAREFUL!
ALL OF YOUR ISSUES ARE WATING FOR YOU ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THAT BRIDGE!

Puberty

Retirement
GRAB
Baths

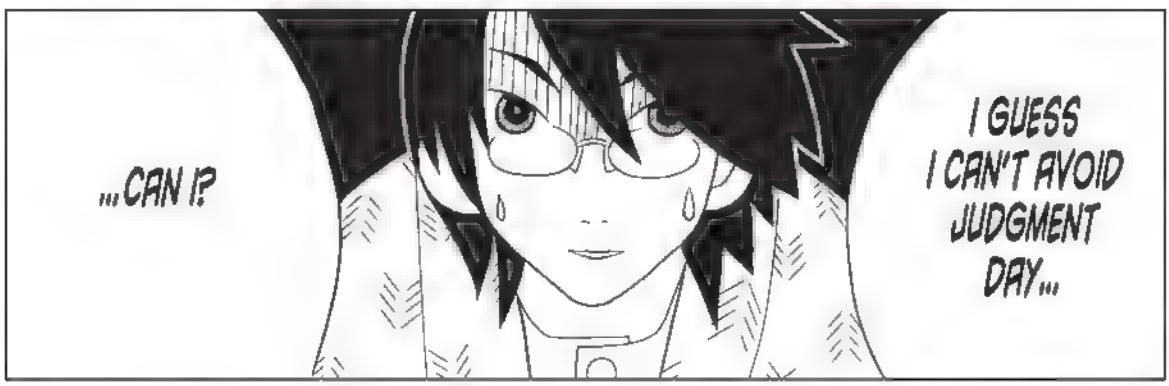
Aging
GRAB

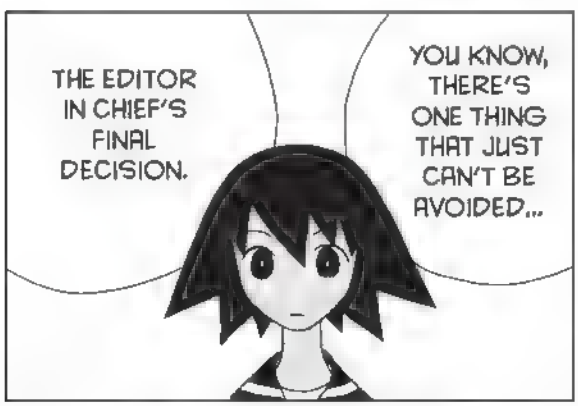
あああああ
AAAAHHH.

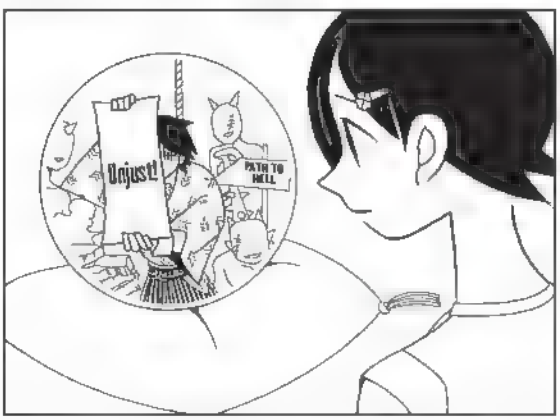
SWIP
AH.
BUT I'M GONNA DO MY BEST TO KEEP AVOIDING THEM.

LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVE TO FACE YOUR ISSUES IF YOU WANNA MAKE IT ACROSS.

KING


...CAN I?
I GUESS I CAN'T AVOID JUDGMENT DAY...


THE EDITOR IN CHIEF'S FINAL DECISION.
YOU KNOW, THERE'S ONE THING THAT JUST CAN'T BE AVOIDED...


Unjust!
PATH TO HELL

I JUST DIDN'T WANNA CAUSE TROUBLE FOR EVERY-ONE.
WERE YOU AVOIDING COMING OUT IN THE OPEN?
YOU'VE BEEN HERE THIS WHOLE TIME?

CHAPTER 60

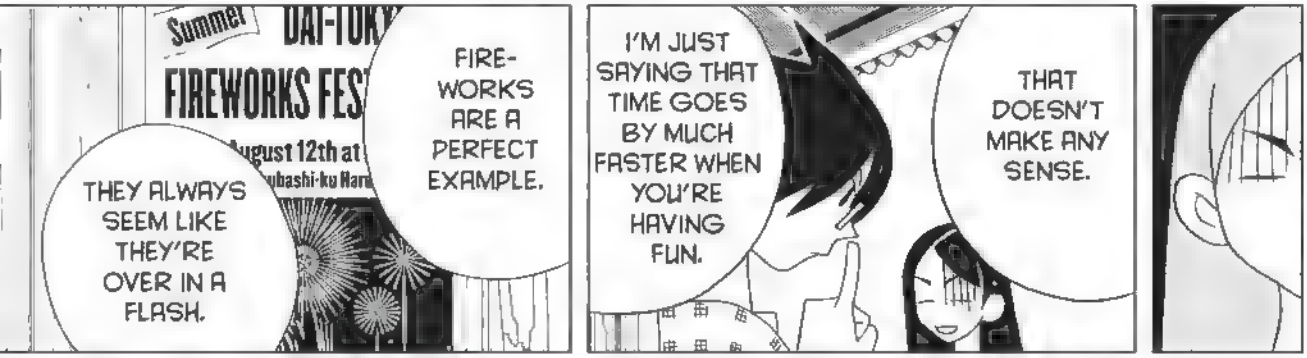
OKAY, I'LL SEE YOU AT THE BUS STOP IN AN HOUR.
SEE YOU IN AN HOUR.
金鳥
IM-HOKU FIREWORKS FESTIVAL

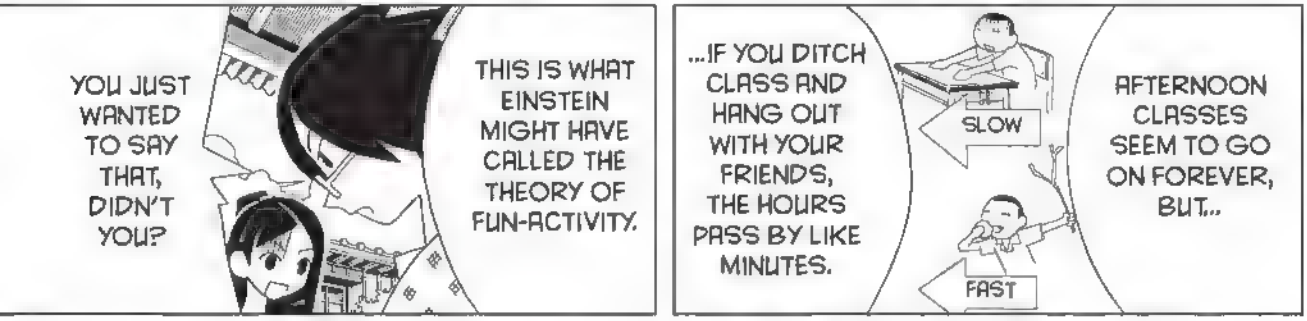
DAI-TOKYO
FIREWORKS FESTIVAL
...WHO CAME RIGHT AT 4 O'CLOCK?
HOW COME I'M THE ONLY ONE...

I'M SORRY! I'M SO SORRY! IT'S ALL MY FAULT. I SHOULDN'T HAVE COME SO EARLY.
I WAS ONLY TEN MINUTES LATE. WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
YOU SHOULD BE ON TIME!
IT'S NOT THAT THEY CAN'T KEEP A PROPER SCHEDULE.
IT'S BECAUSE OF THE TIME DIFFER-ENCE.
HUH?
EVERY-BODY'S GOT THEIR OWN INTERNAL CLOCK...
...SO YOU HAVE TO ACCOUNT FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL'S TIME DIFFERENCE.

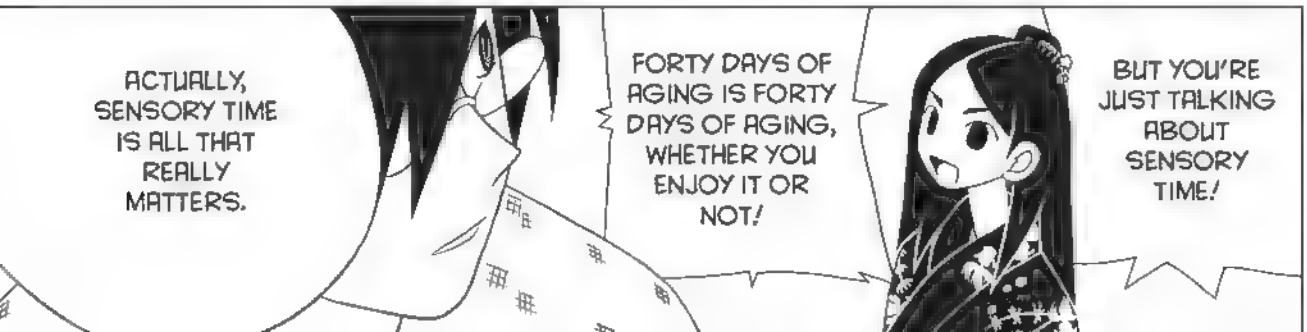
...ACCORDING TO THEIR OWN INTERNAL CLOCKS.
IN OTHER WORDS, EVERYBODY ARRIVED HERE AT EXACTLY 4 P.M....
EVERYBODY EXPERIENCES TIME DIFFERENTLY.
IT'S NOT AN EXCUSE.
WHAT A LAME EXCUSE!
WHEN YOU'RE HAVING A BAD DAY, TIME GOES BY REALLY SLOWLY.
AN HOUR CAN GO BY REALLY FAST IF YOU'RE HAVING FUN, BUT...
...IF YOU'RE BORED, IT CAN FEEL LIKE FOREVER.
NAG
NAG

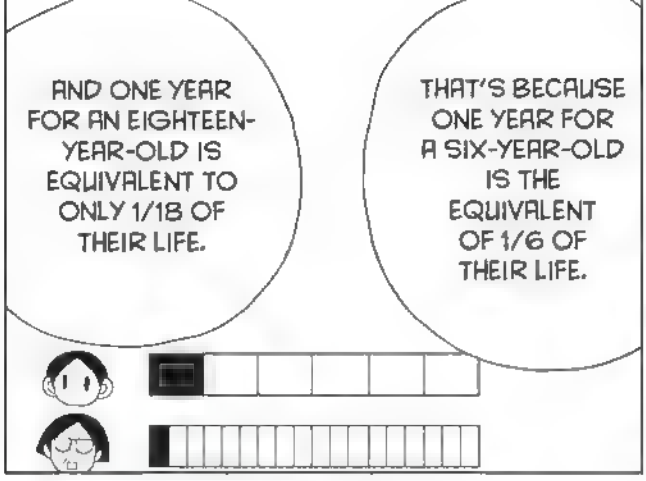
...WHEN YOU'RE HAVING LOTS OF FUN!
SUMMER BREAK SEEMS TO PASS BY IN AN INSTANT...
Atomo!
LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT SOME REAL-WORLD EXAMPLES.


Summer
FIREWORKS FES
August 12th at
THEY ALWAYS SEEM LIKE THEY'RE OVER IN A FLASH.
FIRE-WORKS ARE A PERFECT EXAMPLE.
I'M JUST SAYING THAT TIME GOES BY MUCH FASTER WHEN YOU'RE HAVING FUN.
THAT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE.


YOU JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT, DIDN'T YOU?
THIS IS WHAT EINSTEIN MIGHT HAVE CALLED THE THEORY OF FUN-ACTIVITY.
...IF YOU DITCH CLASS AND HANG OUT WITH YOUR FRIENDS, THE HOURS PASS BY LIKE MINUTES.
SLOW
FAST
AFTERNOON CLASSES SEEM TO GO ON FOREVER, BUT...

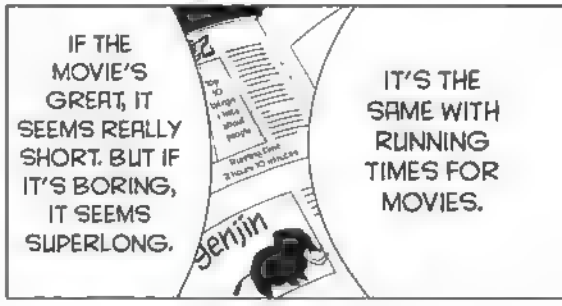
SO, IF YOU WANT TO LIVE A LONG TIME, YOU NEED TO AIM FOR A BORING LIFE!
FUN (AREA)
×
SENSORY LIFESPAN (LENGTH)
=
*THE VOLUME IS THE SAME.
THE THEORY BASICALLY STATES THAT THE MORE FUN YOUR LIFE IS, THE QUICKER TIME PASSES, AND HENCE THE QUICKER DEATH COMES.


ACTUALLY, SENSORY TIME IS ALL THAT REALLY MATTERS.
FORTY DAYS OF AGING IS FORTY DAYS OF AGING, WHETHER YOU ENJOY IT OR NOT!
BUT YOU'RE JUST TALKING ABOUT SENSORY TIME!


AND ONE YEAR FOR AN EIGHTEEN-YEAR-OLD IS EQUIVALENT TO ONLY 1/18 OF THEIR LIFE.
THAT'S BECAUSE ONE YEAR FOR A SIX-YEAR-OLD IS THE EQUIVALENT OF 1/6 OF THEIR LIFE.

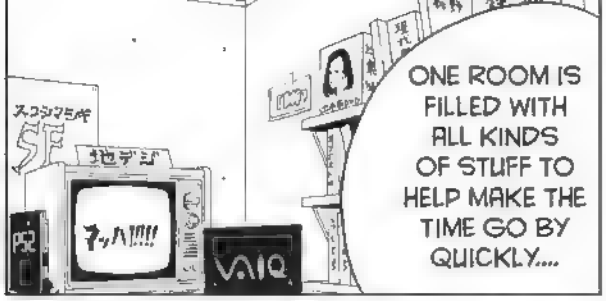
• A.I. (146 MINUTES) → 4 HOURS
• SUSPECT SHINJI MURO* (117 MINUTES) → 3 HOURS
• OTOKOTA*** NO YAMATO (145 MINUTES) → 5 HOURS
• CRS**ERN (FINAL 30 MINUTES) → 3 HOURS
• ON DEADLY GR**ND (STEVEN SEAGAL'S SPEECH IN THE FINAL 5 MINUTES) → 30 MINUTES
• SEKAI NO OWARI TOU**** ZAKKATEN (94 MINUTES) → 2 HOURS
• SEN**** JIEITAI 1549 (119 MINUTES) → 457 YEARS
THEY SHOULD POST THE "SENSORY RUNNING TIME" INSTEAD!

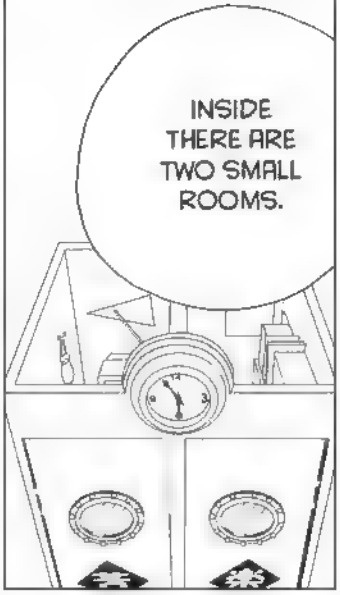
*RESULTS MAY VARY.

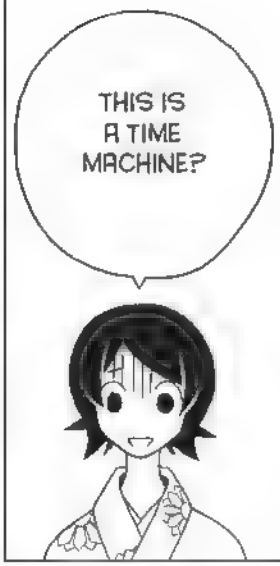


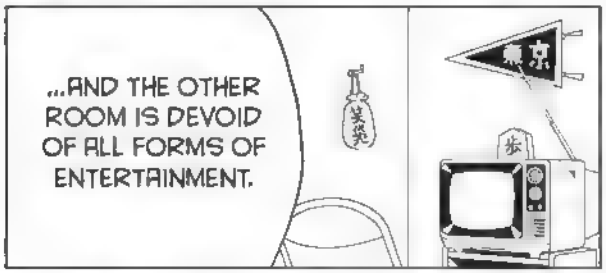
- THE MOMENT A NEEDLE ENTERS YOUR SKIN WHEN GETTING A SHOT. (3 SECONDS) → 1 MINUTE
- FROM THE MOMENT YOU BREAK WINDOW... TO THE MOMENT YOU GET CAUGHT. (3 MINUTES) → 30 MINUTES
- FROM THE MOMENT YOU CHECK IN AT THE AIRPORT TO THE MOMENT YOU BOARD THE PLANE. (40 MINUTES) → 2 HOURS
- FROM THE MOMENT YOU FIRST TELL SOMEONE YOU LOVE THEM TO THE MOMENT THEY RESPOND. (3 DAYS) → 1 MONTH
- PLAYING YOUR BROTHER'S CHARACTER IN *DRAGON QUEST* SO YOU CAN HELP HIM GET TO THE NEXT LEVEL. (3 HOURS) → 10 HOURS
- FROM THE MOMENT YOU PUSH THE BUTTON ON THE PORNO MAG VENDING MACHINE... TO THE MOMENT IT COMES OUT. (1 SECOND) → 3 MINUTES
- YOUR GRANDKIDS VISITING DURING SUMMER BREAK. (3 DAYS) → 10 MINUTES
- THE LAST SEVERAL SECONDS OF A HORSERACE THAT YOU HAVE MONEY RIDING ON (33 SECONDS) → 5 MINUTES
- ANSWERING A PHONE CALL FROM AN ANGRY CLIENT (5 MINUTES) → 30 MINUTES
- WAITING FOR AN ELEVATOR IN THE KODANSHA BUILDING. (3 MINUTES) → 30 MINUTES
- BEING HOSPITALIZED WITH TWO BROKEN ARMS. (2 WEEKS) → 3 MONTHS
- THE MOMENT YOU JUMP OFF A BUILDING TO THE MOMENT YOU HIT THE GROUND. (1.5 SECONDS) → 2 HOURS
- THE MOMENT YOUR GIRLFRIEND SAYS, "I'M LATE," TO THE MOMENT "I" FINALLY ARRIVES. (1 WEEK) → 3 MONTHS

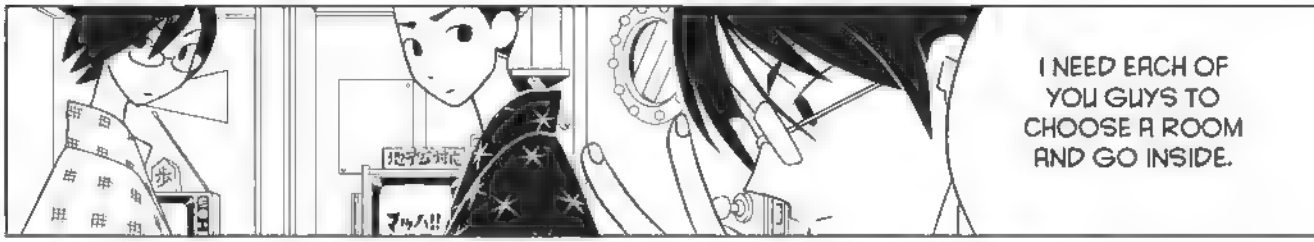
...THE SENSORY HOURLY RATE!
JOB HUNT MAGAZINE
Summer Jobs
JOB
Find the perfect job.
IF YOU'RE PLANNING ON GETTING A JOB OVER THE SUMMER BREAK MAKE SURE YOU WATCH OUT FOR...
DRIP
DRIP
THE SENSORY HOURLY RATE BECOMES JUST 200 YEN.
ON THE OTHER HAND, IF WORK IS SUPER-BORING, AND A SINGLE HOUR FEELS LIKE FIVE...
Beach House
Ice
...THE SENSORY HOURLY RATE WOULD EQUAL 2,000 YEN.
LET'S SAY YOUR HOURLY RATE IS 1,000 YEN. IF YOU REALLY ENJOY YOUR JOB AND AN HOUR FEELS LIKE THIRTY MINUTES...
...IT'S NOT ALL BAD.
OF COURSE, IF THE JOB IS REALLY BORING, THAT MEANS YOUR SENSORY LIFE SPAN WILL EXPAND, SO...
AND "JOB HUNT" SHOULD LIST THE SENSORY HOURLY RATE!
Toothpaste cap applier
Sensory Hourly Rate 400 yen
THE BOSS SHOULD PAY MORE FOR BORING, REPETITIVE JOBS.
WHAT'S THIS?
BORING
FUN
ZETSUBOU-SENSEI'S BROTHER, MIKOTO ITOSHIKI
HEY.
ITOSHIKI HOSPI
04
...USING NOZOMU'S THEORY OF SENSORY TIME.
IT'S A TIME MACHINE I CREATED...


ONE ROOM IS FILLED WITH ALL KINDS OF STUFF TO HELP MAKE THE TIME GO BY QUICKLY....

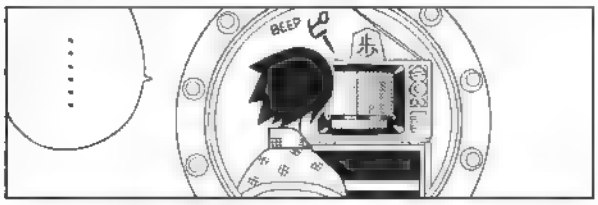

INSIDE THERE ARE TWO SMALL ROOMS.

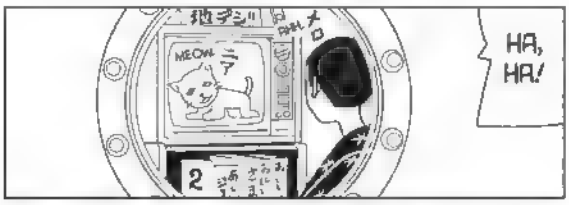

THIS IS A TIME MACHINE?

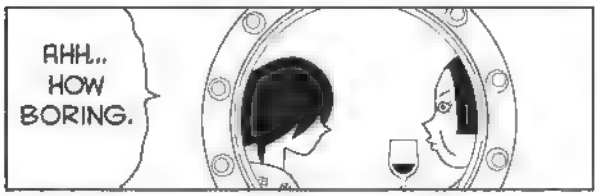

...AND THE OTHER ROOM IS DEVOID OF ALL FORMS OF ENTERTAINMENT.

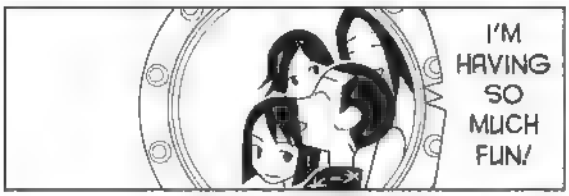

I NEED EACH OF YOU GUYS TO CHOOSE A ROOM AND GO INSIDE.

WHAT IS THIS, A THEME PARK?
HAVE A WONDER-FUL TIME TRIP!
ENJOY YOUR JOURNEY!


.....
BEEP


MEOW
HA, HA!


AHH... HOW BORING.


I'M HAVING SO MUCH FUN!

THREE HOURS?
FIVE MINUTES?
HOW MUCH TIME DO YOU THINK HAS PASSED?
Time
Subject

IKKYUU-SAN AND NOZOMU WERE BOTH INSIDE THEIR ROOMS FOR THIRTY MINUTES. HOWEVER, IKKYUU-SAN FELT THAT ONLY FIVE MINUTES HAD PASSED, AND NOZOMU FELT AS IF THREE HOURS HAD GONE BY.

THAT MEANS...

IKKYUU

NOZOMU

ARE YOU SERIOUS?

CONGRATULATIONS!

YOU'VE SUCCESSFULLY TRAVELED THROUGH TIME!

パチ CLAP

パチ CLAP

TICK TICK

THIS IS WHAT YOU CALL THE URASHIMA EFFECT.

WHEN YOU'RE HAVING FUN, TIME GOES BY FASTER.

YAY, I DID IT!

IKKYUU-SAN HAS TRAVELED INTO THE FUTURE A FULL TWO HOURS FIFTY-FIVE MINUTES.

HMM...

WHY DID YOU CREATE THIS MACHINE, ZETSUMEI-SENSEI?

I THOUGHT IT WOULD HELP PROLONG PEOPLE'S LIVES.

TICK TICK

BUT WHEN YOU'RE BORED, TIME GOES BY SLOWER.

BUT HIS LIFE WOULD END IN TOTAL BOREDOM, WOULDN'T IT?

.....

FUN

IF WE PUT A DYING PATIENT IN THIS BORING ROOM...

...WE CAN GREATLY EXTEND HIS *SENSORY LIFE SPAN.*

THE MORE BORED YOU ARE, THE SLOWER THE TIME PASSES, RIGHT?

SO, AS THE LEVEL OF YOUR BOREDOM INCREASES, THE SPEED OF TIME GRADUALLY GETS CLOSER TO ZERO.

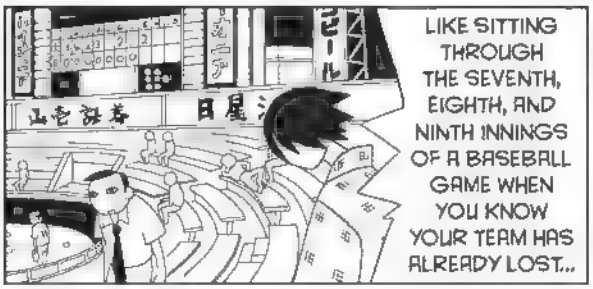
THEREFORE...

FUN

SENSORY SPEED

...MAYBE I COULD GO BACK IN TIME!
...IF I BECOME SO BORED THAT I SURPASS THE VERY LIMITS OF BOREDOM ITSELF, THEN...

MAYBE I CAN GO BACK IN TIME AND LIVE MY WHOLE LIFE ALL OVER AGAIN!
BUT TIME ONLY TRAVELS IN ONE DIRECTION, SO ALL YOU CAN REALLY DO IS SPEED UP OR SLOW DOWN THE PACE. YOU CAN'T MOVE BACK IN TIME.

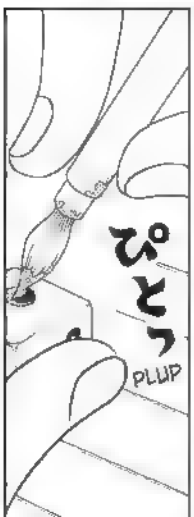

LIKE SITTING THROUGH THE SEVENTH, EIGHTH, AND NINTH INNINGS OF A BASEBALL GAME WHEN YOU KNOW YOUR TEAM HAS ALREADY LOST...

I MUST EXPERIENCE EXTREME BOREDOM!
I MUST GATHER EVERY BORING EXPERIENCE IN THE WORLD AND BRING IT HERE...

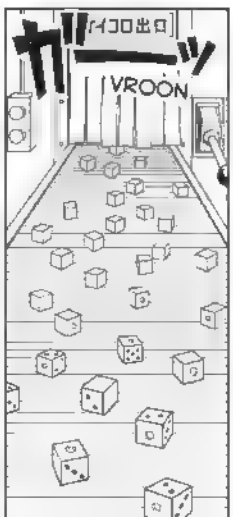
...NOT BORING ENOUGH TO SEND ME BACK IN TIME!
THESE ARE ALL REALLY BORING, BUT...

the elderly
Respect
...OR WATCHING A PAID POLIT.CAL ANNOUNCE-MENT...
...OR HOME VIDEOS OF OTHER PEOPLE'S KIDS/
...OR A SHONEN MAGAZINE CONFER-ENCE...

WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE...
TICK
TICK
TICK
...OR LISTENING TO THE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S NEVER-ENDING SPEECH...

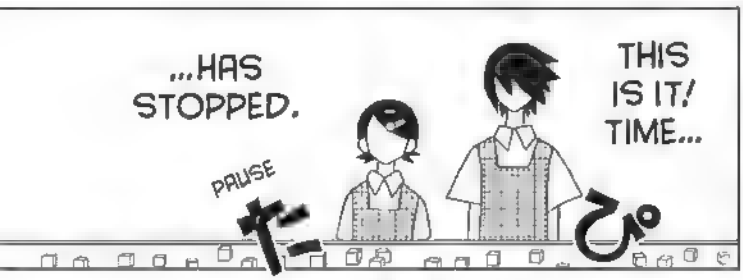

ぴとっ
PLUP

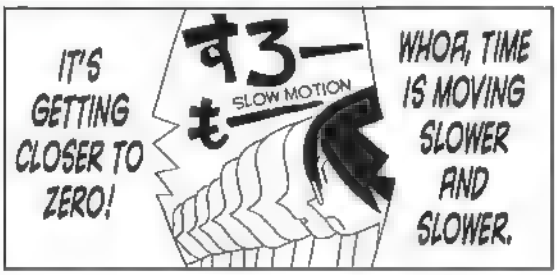
YOUR JOB IS TO COLOR IN THE RED DOT ON THESE DICE.


VROOM

YOU SHOULD GO WORK AT MY FRIEND'S FACTORY.
SENSEI...

WHAT? IT'S ONLY BEEN FIVE MINUTES?
HAS IT BEEN AN HOUR YET?
DICE
DICE A-2
ぺと
PLUP
AHH... THIS SURE IS BORING...
ぺと
PLUP
ぺとっ
PLUP
VROOM
ガー


...HAS STOPPED.
PAUSE
た
ぴ
THIS IS IT! TIME...


IT'S GETTING CLOSER TO ZERO!
すごーも
SLOW MOTION
WHOA, TIME IS MOVING SLOWER AND SLOWER.

ガー
THWOOP
WAH! WHAT THE-?

しゅの
SWIP

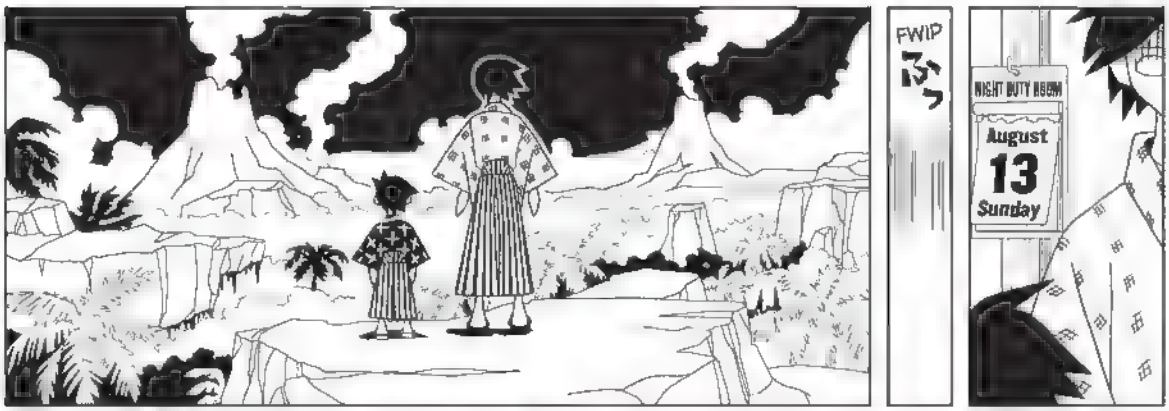
WHOA, NOW TIME HAS STARTED MOVING BACK-WARDS!

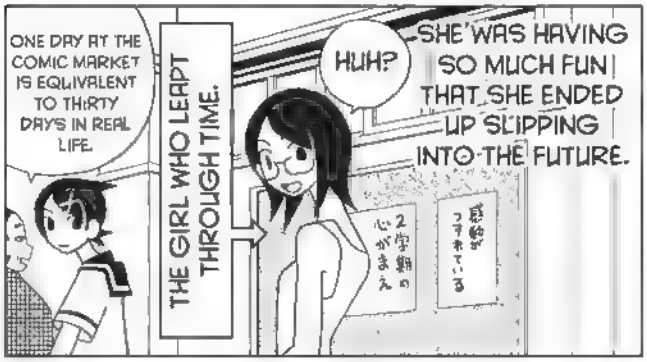
ONCE YOU'RE OUT OF MONEY THEY'LL START HARVESTING YOUR ORGANS.
BLEAH!

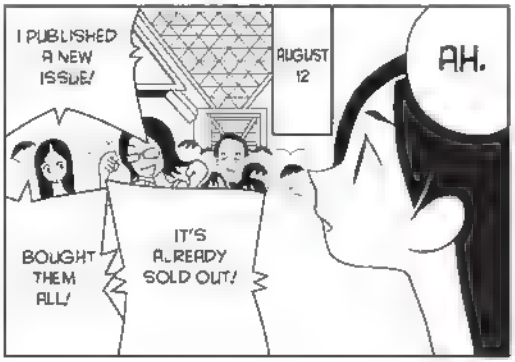
NO WAY!
OF COURSE. YOUR INCOME IS GONNA START GOING BACKWARDS TOO.

SOME-THING BORING?
MAJIRU, CAN YOU THINK OF ANYTHING THAT'S REALLY BORING?

I'M QUITTING!
USING THIS BORING JOB TO GO BACK IN TIME IS MORE DANGEROUS THAN I THOUGHT.

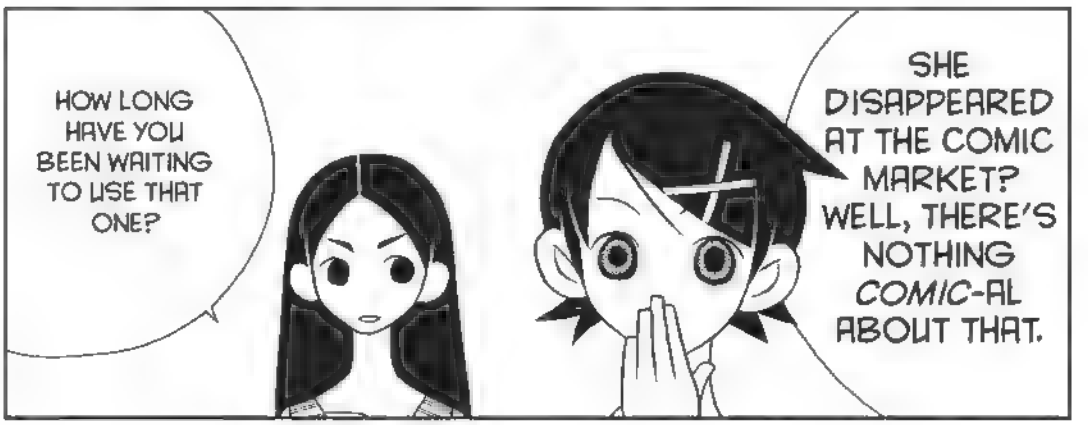



ONE DAY AT THE COMIC MARKET IS EQUIVALENT TO THIRTY DAYS IN REAL LIFE.
THE GIRL WHO LEAPT THROUGH TIME.
HUH?
SHE WAS HAVING SO MUCH FUN THAT SHE ENDED UP SLIPPING INTO THE FUTURE.



TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 7

OH NO...
KAMINASHI PARK POLICE STATION
HARUMI DISAPPEARED AT THE COMIC MARKET.


HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN WAITING TO USE THAT ONE?
SHE DISAPPEARED AT THE COMIC MARKET? WELL, THERE'S NOTHING *COMIC*-AL ABOUT THAT.

CURRENT CHARGES FROM THIS ISSUE

LETTER OF ACCUSATION

PLAINTIFF:
OCCUPATION: STUDENT
NAME: KAERE KIMURA

DEFENDANT:
OCCUPATION: KODANSHA AND *PRIDAY* MAGAZINE CHIEF EDITOR
NAME: N/A

DATE: JULY 5
ATTN: CHIEF OF POLICE

- ACCUSATION

THE ACTS BY THE DEFENDANT AS STATED BELOW ARE CONSIDERED TO FALL UNDER CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE 176 (CRIME OF DEFAMATION) AND THIS COMPLAINT IS MADE TO PURSUE SEVERE PUNISHMENT TO BE HANDED OUT TO THE DEFENDANT.

1. FACTS REGARDING THE ACCUSATION

AT ABOUT 4 P.M. ON A WINDY DAY, AS I WAS HEADING HOME FROM SCHOOL. THE DEFENDANT, WHO HAPPENED TO BE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD ON ASSIGNMENT, TURNED HIS CAMERA TOWARD ME WITHOUT ASKING PERMISSION AND TOOK A PICTURE OF ME AS MY SKIRT FLIPPED IN THE AIR.

LATER, THE DEFENDANT POSTED THE SO-CALLED "PANTY SHOT" INSIDE THE SEALED PAGES OF THE "WORLD CUP OF BOOBIES" SECTION OF *PRIDAY* MAGAZINE.

IN ADDITION, THE DEFENDANT FALSELY STATED THAT I WOULD BE REPRESENTING JAPAN IN THE UPCOMING 2010 "PANTY-SHOT WORLD CUP" WHICH HAS SEVERELY DAMAGED MY REPUTATION.

THE AFOREMENTIONED ACTS ARE CONSIDERED TO FALL UNDER CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE 176 (CRIME OF DEFAMATION), AND I HEREBY FILE THIS CHARGE IN ORDER TO INSURE THAT THE SUSPECT BE SENTENCED TO THE STRICTEST PUNISHMENT POSSIBLE.

2. EVIDENCE
   1. *PRIDAY* 2006, NUMBER 30 - SEALED PAGES

3. SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS
   AFOREMENTIONED MAGAZINE - ONE COPY

PAPER BLOGS

PREAMBLE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

ON SUNDAY, THIS ISSUE IS GONNA GO TO PRESS, AND I'M UNDER EXTREME PRESSURE. BUT HERE I AM WRITING THIS BLOG. FORGIVE ME IF I SAY SOMETHING CRAZY.

YA KNOW, PEOPLE REALLY ARE QUITE AMAZING. WHEN WE'RE UNDER PRESSURE, A STRANGE POWER COMES TO US FROM OUT OF NOWHERE. WE ACCOMPLISH THINGS THAT WE'RE NORMALLY INCAPABLE OF. THIS IS WHAT YOU CALL LATENT ABILITY OR HIDDEN POWERS. MY ROOM IS SUPER-CLEAN RIGHT NOW. USUALLY I HAVE NO DESIRE OR CAPABILITY TO CLEAN. I AM COOKING RIGHT NOW. I'M MAKING SOMETHING I USUALLY WOULDN'T HAVE THE PATIENCE TO MAKE LIKE POT-AU-FEU. I'M WEARING NICE CLOTHES EVEN THOUGH I'M INSIDE MY ROOM. I USUALLY DON'T PUT ANY THOUGHT INTO WHAT I WEAR, BUT WHEN I'M UNDER PRESSURE, I FEEL LIKE DRESSING UP.

OH NO. THE WII IS GOING ON SALE TODAY! I'VE GOTTA GO OUT. I HAVEN'T BEEN SO ACTIVE IN SUCH A LONG TIME. I MIGHT BAKE SOME MUFFINS BEFORE MY NEXT DEADLINE.

POROROCA

I'VE NEVER HAD A HIT SERIES. SOMEBODY TOLD ME THAT I'M A NO-HITTER IN THIS BUSINESS. I CAN'T GO WITH THE FLOW OR GO AGAINST IT. ALL I CAN DO IS TRY AND STAY WHERE I AM, JUST LIKE A SPRIG OF SEAWEED. ALL I DO IS TRY AND RESIST THE CURRENT AS I'M SLOWLY WORN AWAY UNTIL I EVENTUALLY DISAPPEAR. IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER THE WATER IS CLEAR OR CLOUDY...

I SAW THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE MOST POPULAR WORD OF THE YEAR ON TV EARLIER.

I'M GONNA GO WITH THE FLOW AND SAY IT OUT LOUD.

"ONE, TWO, THREE, I WANNA DIE. WANNA TRY?"

THAT'S RIGHT, WHETHER IT'S POPULAR OR NOT, I'M ALWAYS BENDING OVER BACKWARDS AND SUFFERING FROM KUMETA-WANNA-DIE SYNDROME.

ASSUMPTIONS

I'VE BEEN DREAMING ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT MY DREAMS ARE NEVER GONNA COME TRUE.

I'VE BEEN IN LOVE WITH GIRLS ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT MY LOVE WILL NEVER BE RECIPROCATED.

THIS IS WHEN I WAS YOUNG AND IDEALISTIC. NOW THAT I'M OLD, I DON'T DREAM OR FALL IN LOVE.

PEOPLE LIVE ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THEY'LL EVENTUALLY DIE.

IF I EVER BECOME POSITIVE AGAIN, I WANNA LIVE UNDER THE ASSUMPTION THAT REINCARNATION IS REAL.

I AM WRITING ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT NOBODY'S GONNA ACCEPT WHAT I SAY.

MY MANGA IS PUBLISHED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT PEOPLE ARE GONNA FORGET ABOUT IT.

I AM LIVING ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT NOBODY CARES THAT I EXIST.

BUT THE CHIEF EDITOR GAVE ME A FEW KIND WORDS.

"IT'S OKAY. DON'T WORRY."

"WE PUBLISHED YOUR SERIES ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT IT WOULDN'T BE A HIT." THE LOWLY INSECT FELT RELIEVED.

BASED ON BOULEVARD

JUST GIVE ME ONE GREAT STORY.

GIVE ME ONE GREAT STORY THAT WILL BE LOVED BY THE WORLD. AS IF TO ANSWER THAT PRAYER, A MIRACLE HAPPENED.

ONE DAY, A WORTHLESS MANGA ARTIST WAS WALKING THROUGH THE FOREST, WHEN HE STUMBLED UPON AN AUTHOR.

THE MANGA ARTIST WAS SO HAPPY THAT HE DECIDED TO TAKE THE AUTHOR HOME.

THEY PASSED A WELL ON THE WAY HOME.

THE MANGA ARTIST HAD BEEN UP FOR THREE DAYS STRAIGHT. HE TRIPPED AND FELL INTO THE WELL, DRAGGING THE AUTHOR ALONG WITH HIM.

THE MANGA ARTIST STOOD THERE IN SHOCK. THEN A GODDESS APPEARED FROM THE WELL. SHE SAID,

"DID YOU DROP A GOLDEN BU*** SON? OR WAS IT AN ORDINARY BU*** SON?"

"I DROPPED A GOLDEN BU*** SON."

"YOU LIAR!"

"YOU DESERVE THIS RUSTY BU*** SON!"

HEARD IT A MILLION TIMES

I'VE HEARD IT ALL A MILLION TIMES.

I'VE BEEN TOLD A MILLION TIMES THAT I SUCK. I'VE BEEN TOLD A MILLION TIMES THAT I'M BORING. I'VE BEEN TOLD A MILLION TIMES THAT I'M VULGAR. I'VE BEEN TOLD A MILLION TIMES THAT WHAT I WRITE ISN'T REALLY MANGA. I'VE BEEN TOLD A MILLION TIMES THAT I'M OLD-FASHIONED. I'VE BEEN TOLD A MILLION TIMES THAT I'M NOT CREATIVE. I'VE BEEN TOLD A MILLION TIMES THAT I MAKE NO SENSE. I'VE BEEN TOLD A MILLION TIMES THAT I SHOULD QUIT. I'VE BEEN TOLD A MILLION TIMES THAT I SHOULD DIE.

I'VE SAID "I APOLOGIZE," A MILLION TIMES.

I'VE SAID "I'M SORRY," A MILLION TIMES.

I'VE SAID "EXCUSE ME," A MILLION TIMES.

I'VE SAID EVERY APOLOGY YOU CAN THINK OF A MILLION TIMES.

I'VE BEEN TOLD THAT I SHOULD DIE A MILLION TIMES. IT MADE ME WANNA DIE A MILLION TIMES.

BUT I'VE NEVER DIED

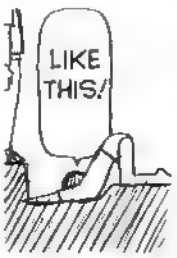
VOICE: DIE.

VOICE: DIE.

VOICE: DIE.

VOICE: DIE.

DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMING

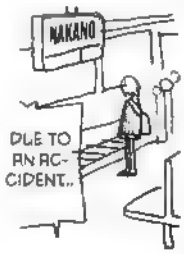


I'M SORRY THAT I HAVE A SERIES. I'D BE BETTER OFF IF I WAS A DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMER, BUT I'M A NONDELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMER. I CAUSE TROUBLE JUST BY BEING ALIVE. I'M A PUBLIC NUISANCE. PLEASE ARREST ME NOW. PLEASE SEND ME TO THE GAS CHAMBER.

THERE ARE ABOUT 50,000 PEOPLE I'D LIKE TO APOLOGIZE TO. I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT ALL THE PEOPLE WHO ARE READING THIS BOOK. BUT I CAN'T APOLOGIZE TO 50,000 PEOPLE BECAUSE I DON'T THINK I HAVE THAT MANY READERS. IT WOULD BE NICE IF I COULD APOLOGIZE TO 500,000 PEOPLE SOME DAY. OH WELL... I'M GONNA STOP DREAMING SO BIG. BUT I'D LIKE TO APOLOGIZE TO A FEW OF MY READERS OUT THERE.

I DON'T THINK JUST GETTING DOWN ON MY HANDS AND KNEES IS GOOD ENOUGH. I'M GONNA DIG A HOLE AND BOW DOWN INSIDE THE HOLE.

TERMINAL EXAM



IT'S THE END OF THE YEAR. I DIDN'T ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING IN THE YEAR 2006. WHILE EVERYBODY'S OUT CELEBRATING THE END OF THE YEAR, MY LIFE IS FALLING APART. THIS YEAR ENDS WHEN THE NEW YEAR ARRIVES, BUT THE NEW YEAR ISN'T GONNA PUT AN END TO THE FACT THAT I'M FALLING APART.

A LOT OF THINGS ARE FALLING APART.

MY KNEES ARE FALLING APART EVEN THOUGH I DON'T PLAY ANY SPORTS. I'M TIRED OF LOVE EVEN THOUGH I'M NOT IN LOVE. I'VE LOST FAITH IN LOVE EVEN THOUGH NOBODY LOVES ME. MY BACK HURTS WHEN I GENUFLECT. I STARTED LOSING MY MIND A LONG TIME AGO.

ONE DAY, I COULDN'T REMEMBER THE NAME OF THE STATION IN BETWEEN SHINJUKU AND NAKANO, SO I DECIDED TO GET OFF AND GO SEE WHAT IT WAS. SO I GOT ON THE CHUO LINE, BUT I FORGOT TO GET OFF AND ENDED UP IN NAKANO. I WANDERED AROUND NAKANO BROADWAY AND RAN INTO SOMEONE IN THE MANGA BUSINESS, BUT I COULDN'T REMEMBER HIS NAME. I THOUGHT ABOUT BUYING SOMETHING, BUT I FORGOT WHAT I WANTED TO BUY. ON THE WAY HOME, THE CHUO LINE WAS STOPPED DUE TO A FATAL TRAIN ACCIDENT. MY LIFE IS TOTALLY FALLING APART.

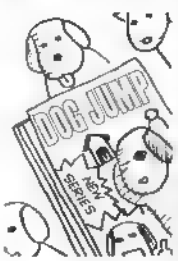
DAY 46,000

ALTHOUGH NOT MANY PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT IT, "DAY 46,000" REALLY EXISTS. SOME SHRINES CALL IT "1,000 DAYS PRAYER." IT'S A DAY WHEN YOU RECEIVE 1000 DAYS' WORTH OF MERIT IN A SINGLE DAY.

I CAN IMAGINE HOW IT ALL GOT STARTED. IT MUST'VE BEEN LIKE A BONUS POINT CARD COMPETITION BETWEEN BIC CAMERA AND YODOBASHI CAMERA. SOME SHRINE PROBABLY STARTED SAYING "IF YOU VISIT OUR SHRINE ON A PARTICULAR DAY, YOU GET THREE DAYS WORTH OF MERIT." THEN ANOTHER SHRINE SAID, "AT OUR SHRINE, YOU RECEIVE SEVEN DAYS WORTH OF MERIT." THEN ANOTHER ONE SAID, "AT OUR SHRINE, YOU RECEIVE TEN DAYS WORTH OF MERIT." AND IT JUST KEPT INCREASING TO 100 DAYS, 1000 DAYS, AND FINALLY 46,000 DAYS. CUSTOMERS ALWAYS MIGRATE TO THE BEST DEAL. EVEN WORSHIP IS BASED ON MARKET FUNDAMENTALS.

I WISH THERE WAS A DAY LIKE THAT FOR READING MANGA. IF YOU READ A MANGA ON A PARTICULAR DAY, YOU'D FIND IT 46,000 TIMES MORE INTERESTING. ON THAT DAY, SOMEBODY MIGHT ACTUALLY TELL ME THAT MY MANGA WAS REALLY GOOD. I AM LIKELY TO FEEL 46,000 TIMES MORE PAIN THAN THE AVERAGE PERSON... 365 DAYS A YEAR.

EXPECTATIONS



IT SEEMS LIKE PEOPLE HAVE ALL THESE NEGATIVE EXPECTATIONS OF ME. 1. DON'T EXPECT ME TO BE MISERABLE. 2. DON'T EXPECT ME TO FAIL. 3. DON'T EXPECT ME TO BE DESTROYED. 4. DON'T EXPECT ME TO DIE. IT SCARES ME TO THINK THAT I MIGHT END UP MEETING YOUR EXPECTATIONS. WELL, PLEASE LET ME HAVE SOME EXPECTATIONS TOO. I DESERVE TO HAVE A BIT OF A BRIGHT FUTURE AFTER I FAIL.

IN 200X, AFTER BEING COMPLETELY REJECTED BY MY READERS AND THE PUBLISHING COMPANY, I'LL OPEN A STUDIO MADE OF CARDBOARD INSIDE A SMALL PARK OUTSIDE OF TOKYO (ILLEGALLY). THERE, I WILL DRAW MANGA FOR DOGS. IT WILL BE A SEXY DOG MANGA TITLED *HEART DOCKIN' DOG* WITH FORTY-EIGHT BEAUTIFUL FEMALE DOG CHARACTERS IN IT. ALTHOUGH IT WON'T BE APPRECIATED IN THE HUMAN WORLD, DOGS WILL REALLY ENJOY IT... ESPECIALLY THE LARGER DOGS. THE CHIHUAHUAS AND THE POMERANIANS WON'T BE CRAZY ABOUT IT, BUT OVERALL IT'LL GET A POSITIVE RECEPTION. GRADUALLY I'LL BECOME POPULAR AMONG DOGS. ONE DAY, A SHIBA NAMED SHIBATA, THE CHIEF EDITOR OF *DOG JUMP*, WILL COME VISIT ME AND SAY, "I'D LIKE YOU TO WRITE A SERIES FOR *DOG JUMP*." AFTER RECEIVING AN UNEXPECTED OFFER, THE MANGA ARTIST WHO WAS ONCE A FAILURE WILL CRY TEARS OF JOY. IMAGINE, SOMEDAY I'LL BE A POPULAR MANGA ARTIST WITH SERIES IN MAGAZINES LIKE *CAT JUMP* AND *COMIC PUN-DOG*... AHH, WHAT A BRIGHT FUTURE AWAITS ME.

SUMMER RETREAT

I HAVE A HABIT OF AVOIDING THINGS.

I'M USED TO BEING AVOIDED.

SOMETIMES WHEN I SEE SOMEONE COMING TOWARD ME, I STEP ASIDE SO THAT I CAN AVOID THEM, BUT I END UP BUMPING INTO THEM BECAUSE THEY STEP ASIDE TOO.

I THINK THIS IS THE KIND OF CONNECTION I SHARE WITH READERS WHO PURCHASED THIS BOOK.

I DON'T LIKE PEOPLE WHO WALK IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET.

I'M ALWAYS WALKING ON THE EDGE SO THAT I CAN AVOID BEING SEEN.

SOMETIMES I BUMP INTO OTHER PEOPLE WHO ARE WALKING ON THE EDGE.

IT MAKES ME SO HAPPY WHEN I GET TO INTERACT WITH OTHER PEOPLE LIKE THAT.

THANK YOU SO MUCH.

TIME MACHINE

I'VE SAID IT BEFORE AND I'LL SAY IT AGAIN, IF YOU WRITE INTERESTING MANGA, YOUR CAREER IS GONNA END UP SHORT. THE CAREER OF A MANGA ARTIST WITH NO TALENT LASTS A VERY LONG TIME. THAT'S THE CATEGORY I FALL INTO. IT'S BEEN FIFTEEN YEARS SINCE I STARTED OUT IN THIS BUSINESS, AND I'VE BEEN WRITING BORING MANGA ALL THIS TIME. IT FEELS LIKE I'VE BEEN ALIVE FOR 200 YEARS.

PEOPLE TELL ME IT TAKES FOREVER TO READ A WHOLE BOOK OF MY WORK. IT FEELS LONG BECAUSE IT'S BORING. THE SENSORY TIME FOR READING THIS ONE BOOK IS EQUIVALENT TO READING 1,000 VOLUMES OF *DRAGON BALL*, OR 500 VOLUMES OF *ORANGE ROAD*, OR 100 VOLUMES OF *CYBER BLUE* OR TWO VOLUMES OF *ZAN*. I'M SORRY FOR WASTING YOUR TIME. I'M SORRY FOR MAKING YOU TRAVEL BACKWARDS IN TIME.

ONCE YOU GO BACK IN TIME FAR ENOUGH, YOU CAN CONFRONT THE YOUNGER ME... WHEN I WAS JUST STARTING OUT.

ZETSUBOU LITERARY COMPILATION

KINSAKU TEMPLE

THERE'S NOTHING MORE PAINFUL IN THIS WORLD THAN COLLECTING MONEY. I'VE GOTTA BURN IT SO THAT I CAN COLLECT MONEY. I'VE GOTTA BURN IT SO THAT I CAN COLLECT THE INSURANCE MONEY. IF THEY FIND A PILLAR THAT DIDN'T BURN, THEY'LL SAY ONLY HALF OF THE PROPERTY WAS DESTROYED BY FIRE. I'VE GOTTA MAKE SURE IT BURNS TO THE GROUND. I'VE DECIDED THAT I CAN NO LONGER GO ON LIVING, SO I MUST SET FIRE TO KINSAKU. I WATCHED AS THE SPARKS FLEW. I WATCHED AS THOSE SAME SPARKS FLEW INTO EDOGAWA'S GORGEOUS PALACE... AND THOUGHT TO MYSELF, "MAYBE I'LL GO ON LIVING AFTER ALL."

SHUT THE DOOR!

THERE'S A BOOK
I CAN'T WAIT TO
READ!

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. In the case of a text-dense manga like *Sayonara, Zetsubou-sensei*, it's a delicate art indeed. Although most of the jokes are universal, Koji Kumeta is famous for filling his manga with references to Japanese politics, entertainment, *otaku* culture, religion, and sports. Unless you're a true Japanophile, it's difficult to understand it all without some serious background knowledge of current events at the time the manga was running. Kumeta also uses references to foreign literature and politics, so even Japanese readers probably don't get all the humor. For your reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the more obscure references and difficult-to-translate jokes in *Sayonara, Zetsubou-sensei*.

Pachinko, page 9

Pachinko is a form of gambling that is sort of a cross between pinball and a slot machine. It has become a gigantic industry and is popular all over Japan. The machines are sometimes based on popular characters from manga.

Baacha*to, page 11

This is a reference to a character in the Konami videogame World Soccer Best Eleven.

WHAT DO YOU ACTUALLY DO AT THIS SCHOOL ANYWAY?
YOU'RE STILL HERE, HUH?
I'D SAY MIZUMO INSTEAD OF MIZUNO, AND OMIAI INSTEAD OF OCHIAI, AND KUROMATE AND RU...

Mizumo, Omiai, Kuromate and Ru, page 11

When the popular baseball game Family Stadium originally came out, they weren't able to use the player's real names because of copyright issues. Therefore, they changed the names to something slightly different such as Mizumo (Mizuno), Omiai (Ochiai), Kuromate (Koromati), Ru (Ro), etc.

Hitoyasumi, page 13

This is a reference to the anime *Ikkyu-san*, a story about a kid who lives in a monastery and is training to become a monk. Whenever he gets in trouble, he says, "*Hitoyasumi, Hitoyasumi*" and comes up with an idea to solve the problem. "*Hitoyasumi, Hitoyasumi*" means something like "Let's take a break, Let's take a break," but here the character replaces this phrase with the words "Remember the old days" since he loves everything "old."

Yumi Adachi's mom, page 14

Yumi Adachi is a former child actor who is now in her twenties. Her mother modeled for a series of nude photos that were published in a book a few years back.

BECAUSE I'M A MAN... I'M GONNA GET INTO MAYAYA, AND THEN I'M GONNA GET INTO THE REAL AYAYA!
I'M GONNA GET INTO MIYAZAKI ANIMATION THROUGH THE WORK OF GORO MIYAZAKI.
BECAUSE I'M A MAN...
BUT DOES THAT REALLY REQUIRE A TIDAL BORE?

Goro Miyazaki, page 14

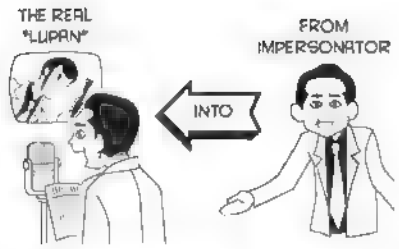
Goro Miyazaki is the son of the prolific animator Hayao Miyazaki (*Totoro, Spirited Away*). Goro directed one animated film called *Tales from Earthsea*.

Mayaya, page 14

Mayaya is a fictional character played by Masahiro Nakai (from the boy band SMAP) on the comedy show SmapxSmap. Ayaya is the nickname of singer Aya Matsuura.

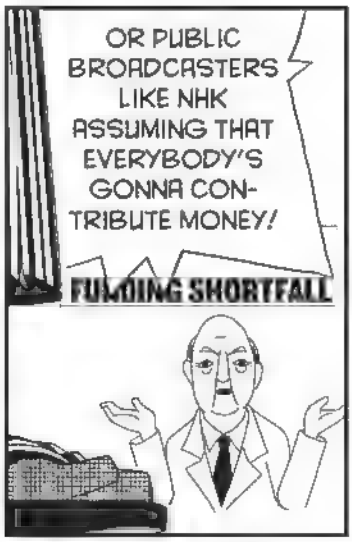
"I'm gonna eat ramen and then become a fan of Gamon!" page 15

Gamon Kawai is an actor. Apparently, he owns a ramen shop.



The real Lupan, page 15

This is a reference to Kanichi Kurita. He used to be popular for impersonating the voice of the anime character Lupan. When the actual voice actor who played Lupan passed away, Kanichi Kurita was offered the role.



NHK, page 23

NHK is Japan's public broadcasting channel.

***Tsundere* Café,** page 30

A *tsundere* is a type of manga or anime character that starts out mean, but later turns lovey dovey. *Tsundere* cafés are an offshoot of the Japanese maid-café phenomenon.

Nagoya, page 31

In Nagoya, when you order coffee at a café, it usually comes with a little snack. Nagoya is famous for "morning service," where you get eggs and toast for the price of a cup of coffee.

Yagami, page 39

This is referring to the TV drama *Yagami-kun no Katei no Jijou*, which is based on a manga.

Ryoko Hirosue, page 39

This is referring to the novel *Himitsu*. In the story, an eleven-year-old girl and her mother get into a car accident. The mother dies, and her soul gets trapped in her daughter's body. The possessed daughter then has sex with her own father.

Naoto Fujiki, page 39

In the manga *Seiyou Kottou Yougashiten* this character is gay, but he's straight in the TV drama.

I DON'T THINK ZICO ORDERS HIS PLAYERS AROUND MUCH DURING GAMES.
ZICO'S ORDERS BOULEVARD
Exclusively for Izawa-sama
...WHENEVER THEY SAY "I JUST DID WHAT COACH ZICO TOLD ME TO. IT'S NOT MY FAULT."
SOCCER PLAYERS USE THIS AS AN ESCAPE ROUTE...

Zico, page 42

Zico is a Brazilian soccer player who later coached Japan's national team.

Yoshizumi, page 42

This is referring to Yoshizumi Ishihara. He is an actor who is also a certified TV meteorologist.

Yogurt, page 51

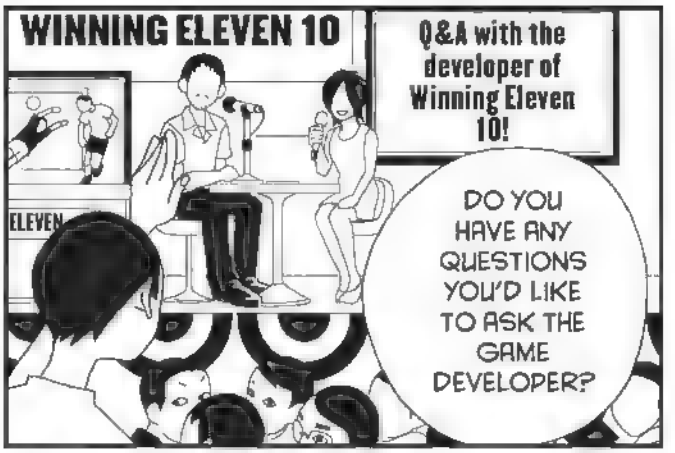
One of Japan's most popular yogurt brands is called Bulgaria. In Japan, Bulgaria is synonymous with yogurt.

Amuro, page 51

Amuro is one of the main characters in the anime *Gundam*, and this was his catchphrase. Amuro uttered this phrase before every takeoff. The girl pictured here is singer Namie Amuro.

Sunday on Wednesday, page 52

Shonen Sunday is a weekly *Shonen* manga magazine published by Shougakukan. The new issue comes out every Wednesday.


WINNING ELEVEN 10
Q&A with the developer of Winning Eleven 10!
ELEVEN
DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS YOU'D LIKE TO ASK THE GAME DEVELOPER?

Winning Eleven, page 52

Winning Eleven 10 is a soccer game series produced by Konami. It came out in 2006.

Mitarai, page 53

The sign featured here actually reads *mitarai* in Japanese. The characters that spell out *mitarai* can also be read as "bathroom," hence the reference to potty jokes.

Oku-san, page 54

The sign here actually says *Oku*. In Japanese *okusan* means "wife," so to refer to Mr. Oku as Oku-san would make him sound like a woman. Since this joke wouldn't quite make sense in English, we opted to adapt it a wee bit.

Kana-chan, page 54

The original Japanese reads "Hey Kanako, if you marry someone named Oba, you'll become Oba Kanako." *Baka* means "stupid" and *Obaka na Ko* would mean "stupid kid."

YOU MUST BE REALLY GOOD AT SOCCER... JUST LIKE CAPTAIN TSUBASA!
EVERY KID NAMED TSUBASA PROBABLY HEARS THIS...
...A MILLION TIMES!
SOCCER CLUB

Tsubasa, page 55

There's a popular soccer-themed manga titled *Captain Tsubasa*.

...WHICH SHE'S ALSO HEARD A MILLION TIMES.
THAT'S JUST THE WAY IT IS, RIGHT?
RIGHT?
THEN A HARDCORE OTAKU OVERHEARS THAT AND CHIMES IN ...

That's just the way it is, page 55

Café maids often wear cat ears, and apparently they are frequently asked why they do so. "That's just the way it is" has become the pat response to this question.

...A MILLION TIMES!
YOU'RE SO LUCKY TO GET ROKKOU SPRING WATER STRAIGHT FROM THE TAP.
THE RESIDENTS OF ROKKOU MUST'VE HEARD PEOPLE SAY THIS...

Rokkou, page 55

Rokkou is a popular Japanese bottled water brand. The city of Rokkou is located in the mountains of Hyogo prefecture.

Smile, page 55

"Smile" is actually listed on the menu of McDonald's restaurants in Japan. I believe there is no charge for smiles.

Ooizumigakuen, page 55

There is a train station called Ooizumigakuen, which means "Ooizumi School," however there is no actual school in the area.

Shimane, page 55

Shimane is one of Japan's least populated prefectures.

Shonen Magazine, page 56

Shonen means "young boy" and *Shonen Magazine* is a popular weekly manga magazine.

Testuya Takeda, page 57

Testuya Takeda is a famous actor. The editor happens to share the same name.

Law and Economics, page 58

The sign here reads "Department of Law and Economics" or in Japanese *Hookei gakubu*. *Hookei* also means "foreskin."

Itchy head, page 72

At hair salons in Japan, it's common for stylists to ask, "Do you have an itch anywhere?"

Book covers, page 72

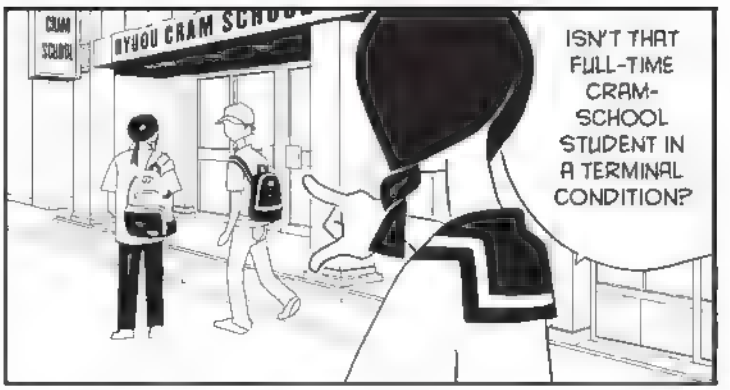
It's common for bookstores to put protective paper covers on books after their purchase.

Wall circle, page 72

The comic market is Japan's largest comic convention. "Wall circle" status at the comic market means that your group is popular and sells lots of Doujinshi comics. Only a select few groups are assigned to these spots.

Animei*to, page 72

This is a reference to a giant anime superstore. The Tokyuu Touyoko train line stops through some of Tokyo's ritzier neighborhoods.



Cram school, page 81

The majority of high school students take after-school classes at cram schools in order to prepare for the college entrance exams. Some students who don't pass the exam the first go-round enroll in cram schools full-time after graduating from high school.

Sealed pages, page 83

Some Japanese magazines have sealed pages (usually containing mature content). This prevents casual newsstand loiterers from seeing the steamy contents without forking over their hard-earned dough.

Soccer miracle, page 86

The "Miracle of Miami" refers to the Japanese soccer team's victory over Brazil at the Atlanta Olympics in 1996. "Miracle in Berlin" refers to the Japanese soccer team's victory over Sweden at the Berlin Olympics in 1936.

Yakitori, page 93

Yakitori is grilled chicken on a skewer.

...THEY HAVE SPECIAL ONE-DAY-ONLY SALES WHERE YOU GET THIRTY TIMES MORE BONUS POINTS THAN USUAL!
SHOVE
KIYOSHI
SHOVE
30 times more points
AT A CERTAIN PHAR-MACY...

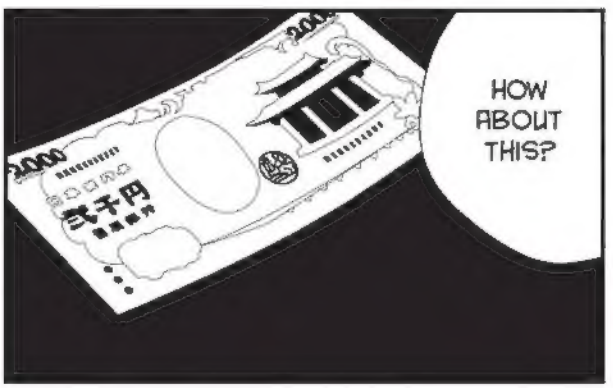
Point cards, page 96

This refers to the popular pharmacy chain Kiyoshi Matsumoto. Customers receive points whenever they shop and receive discounts when they collect enough points. Every once in a while they have special sales where customers get thirty times more points than usual.

NOW I UNDERSTAND THE TRUE MEANING OF LIFE.
YOU'RE HEADING TO HOKKAIDO FOR A LITTLE SOUL-SEARCHING AND YOU'RE EXPECTING TO MEET A PERSON THERE WHO WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE.
Shibuya
YOU'RE EXPECTING A TALENT SCOUT TO SPOT YOU IN SHIBUYA!
PAT
YOU'RE EXPECTING TO HAVE AN AFFAIR WITH A WIDOW IN KARUIZAWA!

Talent scouts, page 109

In Japan, it's common for talent agencies to go out to the streets and scout out beautiful young girls who could potentially become future idols. Many actresses, models, and singers started their careers this way. Harajuku and Shibuya are popular places to be spotted.

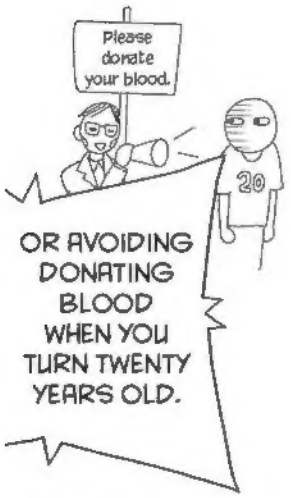


2,000 Yen, page 113

The 2,000-yen bill was created to commemorate the year 2000, but it never really caught on.

Giants love, page 114

The Yomiuri Giants baseball team's coach Hara used this as a catchphrase.



Donating blood, page 122

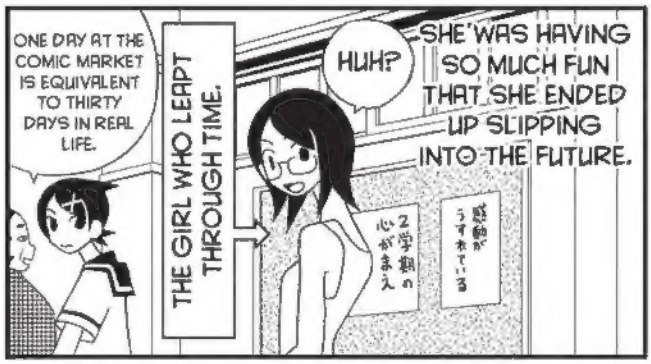
In 1975 Japan's Red Cross started a "Donate when you turn twenty" campaign in order to raise awareness among the nation's youth.

Yoko Kumada look-alike, page 130

A few years ago, a self-proclaimed Yoko Kumada look-alike set fire to a vehicle and posted the photo on her blog. She was arrested for arson.

Urashima Effect, page 143

"Urashima Taro" is a classic Japanese folktale. One day, a young man named Taro saves a turtle from a group of kids. To show his appreciation, the turtle invites him to an underwater palace called Ryuuguujyou. At the palace, he is greeted by Princess Otohime who entertains him. When Taro decides to leave, the princess gives him a box and tells him never to open it. When he gets back to his village, he opens the box. Smoke comes out, and Taro transforms into an old man. While Taro was enjoying his time at the palace, seven hundred years had passed in real life.


ONE DAY AT THE COMIC MARKET IS EQUIVALENT TO THIRTY DAYS IN REAL LIFE.
THE GIRL WHO LEAPT THROUGH TIME.
HUH?
SHE WAS HAVING SO MUCH FUN THAT SHE ENDED UP SLIPPING INTO THE FUTURE.

The Girl Who Leapt Through Time, page 146

This is the title of a popular novel, which has been made into movies, TV dramas, and anime. It's about a high school girl who wakes up one day and realizes she can go back in time. The original title was *Toki wo Kakeru Shoujo*.

Bu* Son,** page 150

This is probably a reference to Buron Son, creator of the series *Fist of the North Star*.